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Cool for kids Young ideas for spring

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ectures A living language must break the rules PAGE 9

Let's hear it for the middle classes Why we should back

suburban values, P17



Peers' revolt wins TV sports victory

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY ALEXANDRA FREAN AND ALICE THOMSON

BROADCASTING of top sporting events on BBC and ITV was guaranteed last night after the Lords defeated the Government in a campaign to prevent them going exclusively to satellite television. A cross-party alliance of peers secured a 117-vote victory in its campaign to ensure the general broadcasting of eight events cricket Test matches; the Derby; the Grand National; the Football World Cup finals; the FA Cup final; subscription television channels the Scottish FA Cup final; Wimblewill not be able to buy exclusive live don finals weekend; and the

The Lords ignored appeals from Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, to wait for the results of consultation, and instead delivered one of the biggest govern-ment deleats in the Upper House in recent years. Ministers conceded that there was no chance of the amendment to the Broadcasting Bill being overturned in the Commons, but they claimed that the Government was relaxed about it.

will not be able to buy exclusive live rights to the events. It would extend to satellite stations such as British Sky Broadcasting the present restrictions which prevent pay-per-view channels buying ex-

clusive rights to the events.

The decision was a rebuff to Mrs Bottomley, who angered peers by publishing a consultation document on televised sport only days before the vote. If, as expected, the decision is backed by the Commons, it will represent a setback for satellite television, particularly BSkyB, 40 per cent owned by News

BSkyB failed last month in its attempt to buy the rights to the Olympic Games up to 2008, but it has expressed no interest in bidding for exclusive rights to any of

the domestic events.

Both the BBC and BSkyB welcomed the vote. A BBC spokesman said: "The Lords decision is a welcome endorsement of the widely-held public view that these great national occaions should be available for all to see."

BSkyB said that the wording of the amendment would allow it to bid for "listed" events, provided it

the existing legislation, sports bodies cannot offer television rights on a pay-per-view basis. The new words say that broadcasters can buy listed events on a pay-per-view or subscription basis, provided the rights are not exclusive. The years to the two companies, if amendment effectively means that either matched any other broad-Sky can get in and offer the listed caster's offer.

events on pay-per-view television." The decision came as football authorities and broadcasters prepared to fight a move to refer FA Premier League television contracts with BSkyB and the BBC to John Bridgeman, the director gen-eral of Fair Trading, decided to refer a £304 million five-year agreement, the biggest in British sports history, and a subsidiary one, in which the league agreed to award the rights for a further five

The Conservative peer Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare said that he voted with the Government but we were smashed on this. Our opponents won the debate fairly squarely. The Government

nothing has happened. However, ministers a

that they expected a backlash from some big sports bodies which have campaigned to be allowed to conduct their own negotiations with strained by legislation. Some senior sports executives are likely to protest that a decision has effectively been taken before the three-week consultation process is

> Debate, page 10 New channels, page 27

Exit Sid with gas split-up; exit Cedric on £367,000 a year

SID, the archetypal small shareholder eagerly pursued privatised ten years ago, is being told that he is not wanted any more now that the company is to be split up.

Such investors are to be encouraged to cash in their shares because the chairman. Richard Giordano, says it would be "inappropriate" for the new supply company, British Gas Energy, to have a register of 1.8 million names. The rebuff came as Mr

Giordano outlined his plans for the division of British Gas ~ and immediately plunged the company into a new

tive's pay. Cedric Brown, whose 71 per cent pay rise in 1994 sparked the "fat cats" row about boardroom greed, is to retire in April with an annual pension of E247,000, a chauffeur-driven Jaguar, a secretary and a £120,000-a-year consultancy

contract. The deal prompted rowdy exchanges in the Commons yesterday. The Prime Minister insisted that the package was a matter for shareholders, but Tony Blair challenged him to say whether he thought it justified, given the doubling of customer complaints and the because of potential losses. He contrasted British Gas's



taken so long to leak"

tine's remarks apparently condoning the late payment of bills to business creditors as one group of hard-working people told to wait for their money, the other given licence by the Government to print

difficult confrontation with journalists who demanded to know whether he was being pushed out. He insisted: "It is my decision to retire," adding: "I believe that to a very large extent, the task I set myself has been completed,"

However, he admitted that the past 15 months, since his pay rise was announced in the middle of a massive jobshedding programme.

Mr Brown will now hand over his role as chief executive to Mr Giordano, but will continue to work for the company virtually full-time. He is there to do the demerger." a spokesman said.

Provided shareholders approve, British Gas will be divided into two independent companies next year: British Gas Energy (BGE) will serve its 19 million customers while TransCo International will own and operate the pipelines. Investors will be given free shares in BGE, but Mr

Giordano said it would be inappropriate and costly for the new company to maintain the huge share register of its parent, so advisers were aiming to make it easy for small shareholders to sell. One option being studied

would see investors with small packages of shares being invited to sell their holdings on a no-fee basis, or at very low commissions, to Cazenove, the company broker. Cazenove would then sell on the shares on in large packages to institutional investors.

Free shars, page 25



A lonely snowplough struggles to clear the A66 trans-Pennine road yesterday. The AA said of conditions in Cumbria and the Borders: "There are more roads closed than open

Hundreds of drivers stranded in snow chaos

BY RUSSELL JENKINS AND STEPHEN FARRELL

MUCH of Britain was paralysed yesterday by some of the heaviest snowfalls for 50 years, with motorists stranded for a second night in their cars, hundreds of schools shut and thousands of homes with-

declared in Dumfries and Galloway, in the Borders, where 24 inches of snow fell in 36 hours. The council co-

A state of emergency was ordinated emergency services

Riot warning

from an underground nuclear bunker. Territorial Army officers boosted the rescue services trying to reach motorists stranded overnight. About 1.000 motorists were trapped in their cars in Dumfries.

A man whose daughter was stranded in her car near Lockerbie became so desperate that he tried to hire an RAF Sea King helicopter using his American Express platinum card. The company, which boasts a personal service to platinum holders, tried to rent a private helicopter from Glasgow Airport at 2am. When none was available, it tried to hire a Sea King, which costs £5,000 an hour, from RAF stations at Lossiemouth. Boulmer and Kinloss.

It was told that the RAF does not send out its rescue helicopters except at the request of the police. To the best of our knowledge this is the first time anybody has tried to hire us with a credit card," an RAF rescue co-ordination centre official said. "It would have been nice if we had been able to say That will do nicely and rent

them a helicopter, but it was impracticable."

The woman spent 24 hours. in her car before police officers reached her.

The AA described Cumbria and the Borders as a "no-go" zone for motorists, with most roads blocked. The M74, the main road between Carlisle and Glasgow, became a giant lay-by as about 1,000 cars and lorries were abandoned. The AA said: "There are more roads closed than open."

More than 12,000 house holds in Dumfries and Galloway and another 15,000 in South Wales were without power after blizzards brought down electricity lines. Scotland, Wales and west-

ern and central England bore the brunt as temperatures fell to -7C (19F). A second cold

front is forecast to unleash freezing rain or fresh snowstorms over southern and central England and East Anglia later today.

> Travel chaos, page 3 Forecast, page 24

There could be riots in the

streets if the welfare budget were cut overnight, Kenneth Clarke warned Tory rightwingers, as he mapped out a gradual path to reducing state spending. He quoted the recent disruption in France as a __Page 2

New test plans Gillian Shephard, the Educa-

tion and Employment Secretary, is asking her curriculum advisers to consider introducing formal tests for nine-yearolds in an effort to counter

Jury dodging 'must stop'

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MEMBERS of the professions will no longer be able to evade jury service under Labour pians to ensure that fewer criminals are let off. Jack Straw, Shadow Home

Secretary, intends to stop people avoiding jury service by citing business commitments, holidays or minor illness. The automatic exemption of some professions including MPs, peers, doctors. dentists, nurses, vets and Pennington, page 27 | widespread alarm about pri- chemists and anyone in the Dinosaur monopoly, page 29 | mary school standards Page 5 | armed forces — will also be

reviewed. He believes that juries - which are supposed to be selected at random - no longer reflect the community and are "skewed" towards the working class and the unemployed who are often unsympathetic to the police and more likely to acquit

criminals. Mr Straw points out that under present "loose practice", professional people can avoid being jurors, particulary for long trials, by arguing that they cannot take time off work.

Business commitments and holidays are listed as reasons for exemption, as well as illness and physicial disability. He unveiled new figures disclosing that in some courts more than one-third of people asked to serve on juries avoided service.

Mr Straw also wants to revise the list of professionals who have the legal right to be excused, if they wish. A number of people are automatically banned from serving on Continued on page 2, col 5 Olympic hopeful breaks legs in car crash

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THE Olympic dreams of one of Britain's brightest young swimmers have been shattered by a head-on car crash in which she broke both legs.

Alex Bennett, who will be 19 in two

By CRAIG LORD

SWIMMING CORRESPONDENT

weeks, was injured on her way to a training session on Monday. She underwent ten hours of surgery at the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham and will be unable to compete at the British Olympic trials, to be held at Sheffield next month.

The Commonwealth gold medallist had postponed going to university as she concentrated on preparing for the Atlan-

ta Olympics in July. She had been training for 20 hours a week and was driving to one of her regular evening sessions at Beechdale Baths in Nottingham when the accident happened on the A612 between Thurgaton and Lowdham in Nottinghamshire.

She awoke yesterday to the news from her parents. Roger and Chris, that she has metal pins and plates in both legs, one hip, one foot and one ankle. One of her kneecaps was also reconstructed and she suffered cuts to her face. Although still breathing oxygen through a mask, she joked that they should tell her coach. Bill Furniss, "that I'll be a bit rusty when I come back.

Her mother said yesterday: "She's

alive and that's lucky, that's what counts They did all the surgery in one go and Alex has been awake quite a lot but I don't think she quite realises yet just how long a recovery she's in for." She said her daughter was emotionally "still pretty

Mr Furniss said last night that she was the "kind of girl who will be back in six months, where it would take others a Miss Bennett was a national champion

at 400m freestyle and a former butterfly. champion who won a gold and two silver medals at the Commonwealth Games in 1994 as a member of the England relay teams, for mediey and freestyle. She first competed for England at the age of 13.



Bennett underwent all surgery in one go

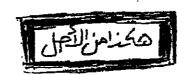
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Truth under the covers: how a young MP kept his modesty

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"I've slept with over 100 boys!" declared Peter Luff (C. Worcester) to the House yesterday. A lady tourist, ushered by chance into the Strangers' Gallery as Mr Luff spoke, dropped her jaw in amaze-ment. So all those stories about Tory MPs were true! It really was as bad as the tabloid newspapers said! She struggled to her seat and sat down. Composing herself, she looked up, resuming her attention to the debate.

Luff warmed to his theme. "I was gagging," he cried,

renewed horror clouding the tourist's gaze, "to see how we'd compare to a bunch of lechy lads out looking for a bit of skirt action!"

Our spectator was now thoroughly confused. Was it skirt action the MP for Worcester sought, or another kind of action? Or both? Was he one of these — what was the word? bi-axial (or was it bi-focal?) politicians? Only last Wednesday, a press release from the BBC had promoted the Corporation's coverage of "the Doncaster bi-election": maybe

bi-elections?

Sadly, the truth was duller. Our tourist had missed the early part of Peter Luff's speech in support of his Bill on Periodicals (Protection of Children)". Luff was not offering shock personal testimony: he was quoting from the magazines his Bill sought to improve. Madam Speaker braced herself as Luff announced: "Men unzipped: an

his declaration "Boys in the



Buff — shots so hot we sealed the pages." She gripped the arms of her Chair at the promise "Red hot! Sizzling male model posters inside." In fact, young Mr Luff, and answered it.

fresh-faced and earnest, made his case well. His aim was to intimate guide to men's minds oblige teenage girls' maga-(and bodies!" She flinched at zines to declare what age range they were written for.

MPs seem to miss: that a case made carefully and without theatricality, an argument which acknowledges objec-tions instead of ducking them, This, he believed, would be a discipline for editors and a guide to parents. He accepted a theme expressed without the strength of the argument pandering to the extremism of some supporters, can be the more powerful for its modesty. for freedom of publication, Speaking without preachi-ness, and allowing that mod-Luff's case was essentially for

ern teenagers did need more for censorship, and very hard open discussion of sex (and at , an earlier age) than had been

parents were young, Luff's success proved what so many Now they know where to look. honest packaging rather than

This did not stop the Liberal

Democrats' dynamic and likeable Simon Hughes (South--wark & Bermondsey) from opposing it. Opposing a Ten Minute Rule Bill is the only way any MP other than its proposer can get in on the act. Luff's theme will provide a number of radio and television opportunities in the weeks ahead. Broadcasters will be looking for an interested MP to put another view.

Mr Hughes was one of the few (among many auxious to speak) called in the much-

ponents of 21, 18 and 16 as the right age. Hughes won his platform by moving an amendment proposing 17.

Yesterday, it is possible he was driven by a deeply-felt objection to Mr. Luff's proposals. It is possible that pigs will fly. It is possible that a day will come when Mr Hughes says something interesting. Yester day was not the day.

Leading article, page 19

Clarke warns that welfare cuts could lead to riots

By Nicholas Wood, Chief Political Correspondent

SLASHING the welfare budget overnight could lead to riots in the streets, Kenneth Clarke warned the hardline Tory Right yesterday as he mapped out a gradual path to

reducing state spending. Reform of the £90 billion-ayear social security budget would inevitably be a lengthy process, the Chancellor said. Measures in hand were saving E5 billion a year and winning broad public support. But precipitate action could have disastrous consequences. "You cannot expect to get to

grips with a burgeoning social security bill overnight," he said. The recent events in

Paris, illustrate the social disruption which sudden reforms can bring."

rebuff to rightwingers such as Norman Lamont, his predecessor, who, at the Tory conference in October, called for the transfer of large parts of the social security system to the private sector and new ways of funding health care. Some right-wingers believe that Britain will be able to compete internationally only if it is prepared to make room for decisive tax cuts by dismantling the welfare state and

ending free health and

Rejecting this view, Mr

Mr Clarke's remarks were a

vices and, at the same time, be a low tax economy." The Chancellor's remarks, at the London School of Economics, were also designed to kill off speculation of a rift

Clarke said: "I believe that we

can have modern public ser-

Tory thinking over tax, spending and the welfare state. In a speech agreed between the two men after a flurry of reports alleging tensions in Downing Street, the Chancellor reaf-firmed his determination to reduce public spending to below 40 per cent of gross domestic product".

achieve that important milestone by next year and would then go further. His remarks were in line with Mr Major's "aspiration" of spending at 35 per cent of GDP. "The Prime Minister and I have both said that we will achieve that target and we have both said that we will then aspire to reduce it further," he said. Spending at

42 per cent of GDP was down on its previous peaks of 43.5 per cent in the recession of the early 1990s, 45.5 per cent in the early 1980s and 47.25 per cent in the mid 1970s. The Chancellor said he expected state spending to remain broadly flat over the next three years.

Peter Riddell, page 10

with John Major over public spending and place the Chan-

BY JAMES LANDALE POLITICAL REPORTER

THE ban on homosexuality in the Armed Forces is to remain in force, it emerged yesterday. Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, will announce the decision later this month when the MoD publishes a long-awaited internal review of the policy. The move will come as a huge relief to service chiefs who have been fighting a two-year battle to prevent any relaxation in the law. However, the decision will

almost certainly prompt a clash between the Government and the European Court of Human Rights. Four former servicemen and women who were dismissed for their homosexuality have taken their cases to the European Court after their legal chall-

Forces to keep ban on gays enge was rejected by the

Appeal Court last year.
Although ministers have accepted the view of defence chiefs that homosexuality is incompatible with service life, they emphasise that the deci-sion is not a moral judgement but a question of operational efficency. They are understood to have rejected compromise proposals for a so-called "don't say, don't tell" policy.

Exhaust test suspended

CHECKS on exhaust fumes from thousands of "green" cars have been suspended after widespread discrepancies were found in the new MoT pollution test. The Transport Department admitted yesterday that it had told 18.000 MoT stations to suspend the special emissions test introduced to examine cars with catalytic converters.

German states in move to ban **British beef**

By Roger Boyes in bonn and Michael Hornsby

the European Court of Justice last night after moving to ban all imports of British beef. The news was greeted with outrage by beef farmers

In a renewed scare over BSE — bovine spongiform encephalopathy, the so-called mad cow disease - a ban has already been announced in Rhineland-Palatinate. It is likely to be adopted by all Germany's 16 regional states, which are angry at the way the issue of suspect cattle imports has been handled by the federal government.

Rhineland-Palatinate's ban is complete and will be strictly enforced. Every beef delivery in the region will have to be accompanied by a certificate stating that it is not of British

Klaudia Martinez, the province's environment minister, said vesterday the ban was imposed out of frustration at 18 months of inactivity by the Federal Government".

The campaign against Brit-ish beef in Germany has been gaining ground over the past few weeks. German scientists. such as the respected Professor Heino Diringer of the Robert Koch Institute, have been advising that mad cow humans, though Britain has always insisted that there is no scientific proof.

Anyone who has been studying the pattern of infection between the most varied of mammals cannot deny that there is a relationship between

GERMAN provincial govern- BSE and Creutzfeldt-Jakob ments were heading for a disease in humans," the pro-confrontation with Britain and fessor said this week. Widespread publicity has also been given to reports suggesting that controls at British slaughterhouses are inadequate.

Sir David Naish, the president of the National Farmers' Union said at the union's annual conference in London yesterday: "I am appailed and horrified that a country which professes to be the most pro-European in the EU is taking illegal action which has no scientific justification and will only damage their own beef industry."

Martin Burtt, chairman of the NFU's livestock committee who raises beef cattle near Whitby in Yorkshire said: "It is a disgraceful situation. We have been bending over backwards to make British beef as safe as possible. What more do we have to do to convince the Germans?"

A spokesman for the Ministry of Agriculture said: "This is a matter for the German government and the European Commission. Any unilateral ban by Germany would be unlawful and we are sure that the European Commission will take the appropriate

A German ban would have little immediate effect. Last year Germany imported no more than 200 tonnes of British beef. But if other EU states, such as France, which imported 80,000 tonnes of British beef in the first nine months of 1995, followed the German example the effects

Universities press on with £300 charge

Universities are pushing ahead with plans for a £300 signing on fee after being offered no long-term funding reform yesterday by Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary. Mrs Shephard met vice chancellors to try to defuse the dispute over university budgets, which led them to threaten a levy for students starting in 1997.

Professor Gareth Roberts, chairman of the Committee of Vice-Charicellors and Principals, welcomed a move by Mrs. Shephard to investigate the effect of cuts in last November's. Budget. But he added: "On the crucial issue of longer term funding, Mrs Shephard provided no reassurance." Mrs. Shephard promised further proposals before the vicechancellors meet again on February 16. They hope these will amount to more than another inquiry. Letters, page 19

Solicitors in legal limbo

Tens of thousands of solicitors in England and Wales are working in legal limbo without a practising certificate because of the failure of a £2.5 million computer system at the Law Society. The society is now in breach of the law because it has failed to discharge its core functions under the Solicitors Act 1974 of issuing certificates within 21 days of receiving a solicitor's application and accounting for the £50 million in fees paid by the applicants.

MoD sells top homes

The Mount in Gibraltar, worth more than £5 million, is among 31 homes that are earmarked for sale after a review of official service houses and senior officers' entertaining requirements. The Mount has a staff of 12 and cost £37,500 to maintain over two years. The MoD said that occupiers of the 44 surviving residences would have their full-time staff, including cooks and gardeners, cut from 234 to 108. Residence staff cost about £5 million a year.

Hostage radio appeal

Relatives and friends of four Britons held hostage in a remote jungle region of Indonesia yesterday appealed for their release in a broadcast on the BBC World Service. There has been no news of William Oates, Daniel Start, Annette van der Kolk and Anna McIvor, all Cambridge University students, for ten days. Maarten van der Kolk, father of Annette, 21, said: "Whatever the cause, we urge Kailik Kwalik [the rebel leader] to make contact and free them right away."

Man held over murder

Detectives were questioning a man last night over the kidnap and murder of Diana Goldsmith, whose disappearance in January last year after she dropped her three children at school has remained a mystery. The 28-year-old man was arrested in southeast London after an appeal by Kent police on the anniversary of the incident. The body of Mrs Goldsmith, 45, former commonlaw wife of the multimillionaire inventor Derek Goldsmith, has not been found.

Lorry driver jailed

A Belgian lorry driver who was falling asleep behind the wheel when he crushed to death a motorcyclist was jailed for three years yesterday for causing death by dangerous driving. Relatives of the victim, Charles Mitchell, condemned as inadequate the sentence on Eddy De Meersman, who pleaded not guilty. He had driven more than 600 miles in breach of European Union regulations when he crashed on the AI near Newark, Nottinghamshire.

Sunbeds death warning

A skin specialist criticised the use of sunbeds after the death of a Dublin man who had 70 per cent burns. Sean Kelly, 39, who had the skin condition psoriasis, died in hospital on Monday of a heart attack. It is understood he had three minutes on a health club sunbed on January 22 and returned next day for a second session of unknown length. Dr Gillian Murphy, a consultant at Beaumont Hospital, Dublin, said: "Nobody should use sunbeds. They are unnecessary."

Threat to royal firemen

Two of Britain's best-known volunteer fire brigades, at Gordonstoun school and Balmoral, are under threat from local authority budget cuts, it was claimed yesterday. The Fire Brigades Union said that Grampian fire service was being forced into a £1.6 million spending reduction which would mean the closure of six of its part-time fire stations. One of the brigades is based at the Queen's holiday home and is manned by 20 workers on the Balmoral estate.

5 things you didn't know about life after death.

- O The average 'breadwinner' is insured for only 2 years' earnings.
- O The average mortgage-linked life policy covers the house but will rarely provide for the family.
- 1 The average family spends more than £800 a month.
- O A widow/widower with 2 children can receive as little as £79 a week from the state.
- 6 it can cost as little as 27p a day to protect your family with £100,000 life cover*.

under-insured. Some of them are simply not aware how much money their family would need, should the worst happen. Others may believe that the necessary life cover would be too costly for them to afford.

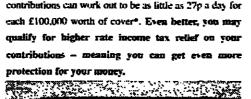
In reality, you can give your family the security they need for as little as a few pence a day.

Allied Dunbar's straightforward term assurance can provide a substantial sum to your dependants should you die within the period insured - at a price that's real value. Depending on your pension arrangements you may be able to obtain tax relief, which means your monthly Call now for a personal quote on

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Straw's jury plan

Continued from page I juries such as lawyers, policemen, the judiciary, those with a criminal record, the mentally ill and the clergy. Anyone else between 18 and 70 is qualified to serve on a jury provided they are on the electoral roll. But self-empioyed people also wriggle out of jury service, by failing to put their names on the electoral register. They argue that the subsistence allowance, a basic £44.80 a day, does not compensate for loss of earnings.

Jury service should be brought back to being an obligation that ... everyone has to fulfill," Mr Straw told The Times. The fact that some people can avoid responsibility has quite significant practical consequences because you get juries that don't properly reflect society and may be more prone to acquit

the law to require people to do jury service when asked, rather than giving jury officers total discretion over whether to accept excuses. He points out that in 1988 the law was relaxed making it easier for people to get out of jury service by asking for it to be deterred.

The jury summoning official can also use his discretion to excuse people altogether. A prospective juror is told that the trial will last about 10 expected to be longer the juror will be asked at court if this would be difficult.

Figures produced by the House of Commons Library show that the number of acquittals in contested cases before Crown Courts has risen in recent years. In 1986-87 half the cases resulted in acquitals, but in 1994-95 this rose to 60

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Scotland cut off as snow wreaks travel chaos





Thousands marooned

in worst drifts for years

KATE ALDERSON THOUSANDS of people spent a second night stranded on the road as rescue workers:

GILLIAN BOWDITCH AND

battled to clear drifts from roads blocked by the worst snow for years.

Territorial Army trucks will picked up a Dumfries womanthis morning join the effort to which went into labour with roads blocked by the worst

help drivers stuck in the Lockerbie area of Dumfries and Galloway.

Scotland was virtually out off as 1,000 vehicles - 400 cars and 600 lorries - were left abandoned on art 18 mile

stretch of road on the main Carlisle to Glasgow 474

In northern England, mo. Inspector George Graham, torists driving north through of Damiries and Galloway Cumbria were \$155 being Poller Said \$1066 people had pulled off roads by police and been that up at the Lockerbie told to spend the night has rescribe denue in largest of

emergency reception centres. Rescue helicopters both north and south of the border were used to ferry patients unable to move by ambulance.

twins. It also took a pregnant woman from Strangaer and a four-week baby in an incuba-tor from Ayr to hospital, Another helicopter, from RAF Boulmer in Northumberland, took three kidney patients needing dialysis treatment to inceptial in Garlisle

seven centres. Twelve police four-wheel drive vehicles worked to bring frozen pas-sengers through closed roads to hotels and hostels. Another six will join them from Nunfield Territorial Army

Barracks today. At Abington Welcome Break service station on the M74 in Lanarkshire, voluntary workers had to turn drivers away after their car park filled up. Police insisted the only people still left in their cars were lorry drivers with enough food and heat in their traction on the ice," he said.

were coping well in the cirand taken to the rescue centre cumstances. "Some drivers at Moffat. are facing a second night here.

cars and just coming in from time to time for provisions and amenities. We've provided people with food and warmth."

One motorist, Arthur Murrell told of how he survived on a few Trebor mints as he waited to be rescued. Another, Ewan Campbell,

33, his wife and 15-month-old daughter were stuck in their car for eight hours from Monday afternoon until 1.30am yesterday. "We had to give a berth to some of the lorries as they were swerving all over the roads as they tried to get cabs to sit out the problems. - Mr Campbell, who was Laura Blyth, who works at driving home to County Durthe Abington station, said they harn, was rescued by police

· They, like the hundreds of

RAF helicopter rescues 19 trapped on train BY JONATHAN PRYNN RAILWAYS

AN RAF helicopter picked up 19 people from a snow-bound train yesterday as the weather caused havoc with rail services.

The Wessex rescue helicopter was called in when ScotRail's 7.02am service from Strangaer to Glasgow became stuck in a high moorland cutting near Girvan, about 45 minutes into its journey.

The aircraft, based at

A snow leopard at Marwell Zoological Park

others, will not be able to move

until later today at the earliest.

were not immune to the wea-

ther conditions. An AA ser-

viceman, Derek Watson,

started rescuing stranded mo-

torists at 8am on Monday. By

3pm he was in the same pre-

on the A74. He finally dug

himself out at noon yesterday.

ament as the drivers, stuck

Even the AA rescue vehicles

Aldergrove, near Belfast, was on a training mission and had landed at HMS Gannet, near Prestwick, when it was pressed into service to rescue the 16 passengers and three

They were flown about ten miles to the village of Barrhill where they were given hot food at an hotel before being taken by road to Stranraer or

Glasgow. Bill Campbell, a passenger on the train, said: The crew were very good at keeping us informed. We were waiting for a railway crew to come and try to dig us out but they could not get near us and went back again,

They had a mobile telephone that only operated from the top of a hill, so they climbed to the top and called again. A helicopter arrived 20 minutes later."

Sleeper services to Scotland arrived up to two hours late yesterday. Most InterCity routes were reported open during the day, although the Cumbrian coast and Wirral branch lines were closed by snow drifts in the morning. There were severe delays on local services in South Wales.

In southern England, trains

Great Western and South West Trains, were badly affected. Great Western had to provide a bus service for InterCity passengers between Exeter and Plymouth when sea defences were breached near Dawlish in Devon.

Railtrack blamed a combi nation of unusually high tides. storm-force winds and crumbling sandstone cliffs along the exposed stretch of track for the delay. Commuter services run by

South West Trains were left in chaos when five trains broke down early yesterday.

There were further delays and cancellations during the evening rush-hour as South West struggled to cope with the disruption caused by the three inches of snow that blanketed Hampshire and

Search team saves rock climber stranded on Welsh mountain

BY RUSSELL JENKINS AND GILLIAN BOWDITCH

early yesterday morning as he clung to a ledge on a 700ft frozen waterfall by his ice pick for more than 12 hours. The rescue party battled through driving snow on mountains near Dinas Mawddwy, south of Dolgellau in Gwynedd, to reach Charles Wallace, 47, of

Coven, near Wolverhampton.
His cries for help were heard by a farmer. Wyn lones, who was tending his sheep nearby. He alerted the Outward Bound Wales search and rescue team who made their way from Aberdovey to the Nant Maes Glasau Falls.

Mr Wallace was criticised by David Williams, 46, a Snowdonia Park warden and leader of the nine man rescue team, for making fundamen-newspapers to keep warm as tal errors. Mr Williams said: he had no blankets or warm First, he went solo in an area he didn't know and when he wasn't aware of the standard of climbing required. Second, if he had listened to the rather forecast he would children and staff who were

A ROCK climber was rescued have known that the conditions weren't suitable... It was lashing with snow. The climber had managed to drag himself off the ice on to a small frozen ledge, securing himself with an ice-are. He had no torch and it was very difficult to hear him above the blizzard."

became strick.
In Cumbria, a solicitor was trapped in the heavy snow on colleagues said Mr Ham-

trapped inside Mayfield School, near Whitehaven, on Monday night by deep snowdrifts were forced to sleep in the school building overnight. All made it home yesterday.

These youngsters were very upset and, because of the nature of their disabilities,

for the day. Some were kept at

home by their parents for the

second day running. Schools

were closed throughout the Dumfries and Galloway re-gion in the Scottish borders, which suffered blizzard

In South Wales more than

120 schools and colleges were closed for the day. Another 250 schools were shut across Gla-

morgan, Clywd and West Wales. More than 60 schools

many have been unable to Mr Williams said that apart comprehend why they weren't allowed to go home last night," said Ann Greggain. from being cold, the climber was not injured and had done all the right things once he chairman of the governors. Thousands of other children enjoyed a day off from classes when their schools were closed

Monday night three miles from Whitehaven. David Hammond telephoned col-leagues at his Sunderland law firm and told them he had been forced to wrap himself in newspapers to keep warm as clothing with him. Yesterday mond still appeared to be

Meanwhile, 50 disabled

them in the Forest of Dean, were closed after up to nine inches of snow fell. Senior educationalists com-

plained that the closures were the worst in 15 years and fear that the disruption to school work may go on for some days Four robbers armed with an

eight inch knife and a handgun stripped a man of his trousers and made him sit in the snow while they stole his belongings. He had to walk blizzard without his trousers The 26-year-old was mugged in Egdbaston, Birmingham, as snow tell on Monday night his white trousers with them £55 cash and a building society book.

Police arrested a burglar after tracking him through the broke into a neighbour's garage and took a wheelbarrow, leaving tracks which police were able to follow to his

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IMPORTANT RECALL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Grolsch Premium Lager "Stubby" 25cl ten pack.

This announcement only applies to 25cl (stubby) bottles of Grolsch Premium Lager purchased before today - 7th February. Any other size bottles or cans of Grolsch are not affected by this recall.

There is a slight risk that upon opening, you may find that small fragments of glass are present. The affected bottles are green with a white and green label and are all 25cl, intended to be supplied in packs of 10.

As a precautionary measure, please take any un-opened bottles bought before 7th February, back to the shop from which they were bought for a full refund.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Groisch in "stubbies" will be back on sale at your normal supplier in the near future, clearly marked as "OK" stock.

In case of difficulty, please contact our Consumer Help Line on Freephone 0800 371166. Lines open 8.00am - 6.00pm, Monday-Friday.

A survivor's guide to beating freeze

IN NORFOLK the winter of 1963 was nearly as bad as that of 1947. Returning from see-ing a patient in the early hours, even my overpowered Mini Cooper fitted with snow tyres was unable to penetrate the drifts. Fearing a night in the snow I started to dig. In the distance I could see the

ine distance I could see the local authority gritting lorry similarly stranded.

After hours of digging I was away and as I shithered past the lorry I saw that my old friend, one-eyed Kelly Hodds, the local areadman.

the local roadman, was tucked up in the cabin, head covered with balaclava as well as a hat, his hands with gloves and mittens, and he was

wearing an ex-Army greatcoat
over layers of pullovers.
The exhaust of the lorry was
well above the level of the
snow and with the heater on
and his engine rouning he
was as warm and comfortable as a bug in a bed. He wound down the window and shout-ed: So sorry — I didn't see it was you doctor. If I had I



would have lent a hand." A true knight of the road.
The AA's advice is not to travel in the snow unless it is

essential but, if it is, to take a shovel, blankets, a flask with a hot drink and chocolates or other calone-rich snacks. When stuck, the association recommends that the snow from in front of all four wheels should be cleared, the wheels should be straight-ened and earth or sacking should be put beneath the back wheels and then cross your fingers and hope to get

Cold kills and as the body's temperature falls the intellect becomes blurred, decisions are unreliable and death may approach unnoticed. Heat has to be preserved. The AA

would have thoroughly ap-proved of Kelly Hodds's precautions. Put on as many layers of clothing as is possible. Never forget that the clothed body loses not less than 25 per cent of its heat. through the head, so that too should be covered Drivers who venture out into blizzards should carry bin liners as mountain walkers do. A couple of bin liners with a hole cut in one for the head

beneath it. The AA recommends that when several cars are stranded passengers should move into one of them; the more

gether the greater the heat generated. A scarf should be tied to the actial to attract attention. Engines and heaters can be left running provided that there is a clear airway so that the exhaust fumes can be blown away.

The youngest and fittest should be sent out to brave the blizzard and the windchill factor. Ageing and obstructed coronary arteries are vulnera-

∴Hot soup is ideal sustenance, enhancing morale and providing a few calonies. Alcohol is a mistake, it may make life seem better for the stranded traveller but it will keep anybody as warm as increases the rate of heat loss.

Mr Hodds. The principle is Do not touch metal parts of always that the more layers the car with bare hands, the better, with each layer of Contact with cold metal at clothing looser than the one very low temperatures soon

> DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

LIKELY MATHS QUESTIONS FOR A NINE-YEAR-OLD This is a list of the highest temperatures each day for DAY TEMPERATURE Sunday Monday 8°C Tuesday 12°C Wednes

Thursday

Friday Saturday How many degrees warmer with it on the holisest day then on the coldest day?

lere is a chart of the temper

Here is a row of numbers 123456789101112131415161716

Write in the missing number ÷ 5 = 22

Alarm over low standards

Junior schools may test pupils at nine

GILLIAN SHEPHARD is asking her curriculum advisers to consider introducing formal tests for nine-year-olds in an effort to counter widespread alarm about primary school standards.

The Education and Employment Secretary called for research on testing at nine after the first national results at 11, published last week, showed worryingly low achievement levels in English and mathematics. Concern deepened yes-terday when Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools. singled out primary teachers for criticism over the way standards slip between the

ages of seven and nine. Mrs Shephard has also asked officials from the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority to devise ways of assessing five-year-olds so their progress can be constantly checked against national targets. Ministers believe regular test results will bring pressure from parents for

standards to be raised if schools are under-performing. The latest results for 11-yearolds showed 48 per cent reached the expected standard in English and 44 per cent in mathematics. For seven-yearolds, the figures were 75.5 per cent and 78 per cent, while at 14 they were 55 per cent and 57

Mr Woodhead, writing in The Times, said: The quality of teaching in the junior age range must be improved sig-nificantly in perhaps half of all primary schools." The authority's own report

on last year's tests highlighted concerns that the four-year gap between tests at 7 and 11 should be bridged by some port said: "Some teachers have suggested that, to track children's progress across the four vears more effectively, there could perhaps be more formal assessment halfway through The report added that any

Simon Jenkins, page 18

move to introduce tests at nine

would need to be balanced

against the implications that

such assessment would have

for teachers' workload, and

the costs of providing the

making any new tests compul-

sory since the national curric-

2000. It would be the 1997-98

school year before tests at nine

could be piloted and only after

that would they be offered to schools as an option.
Teachers unions are scepti-

cal of the value of more tests.

Nigel de Gruchy, general sec-

retary of the National Associ-

ation of Schooknasters and

Union of Women Teachers.

said: "We cannot have testing

all the time because there

would be no time for teaching.

If it is going to mean extra

work we may have to consider

re-introducing our boycott of

lum framework is fixed until

Mrs Shephard has ruled out

necessary materials".

هكذا ون الاجل



Tovarisch crew members with their cars in Newcastle: "In the Ukraine we will be the envy of our friends"

Away the Ladas for stranded crew

FIVE Ukrainian sailors stranded on Tyneside for ten months are setting off for home in a convoy of three battered old Ladas.

They are the remaining crew members from the tall ship Tovarisch, marooned since last April, when safety experts declared that it would cost £2 million to make her seaworthy. Since then, they

have been relying on the generosity of local people for food and clothing. The original crew of 34

dwindled away to just Capshipmates, who have spent two months repairing the Ladas, which they bought for £1,200. On Friday, they will drive to Harwich for the

tradition, Captain Vandenko, will stay with his ship. Valera Karpenkov, 25, the third mate, said: "Everyone has been great but I haven't seen my wife Natalie and my

home in Lvov for almost a

"In England there are many jokes about Ladas, but in the Ukraine we will be the envy of our friends." His crewmate Vasily Fesenko, 23 was married just six months before he set sail for Britain. He said: "We spent what was left of our savings and money from home on the cars. They

look good as new." One local garage, Central Motors in North Shields, even spent three days working on one car free of charge to make sure it is ready.

The crew's wages were still paid direct to their families

lack of foreign reserves saw their overseas allowances run dry. They were looked after by the Tovarisch Support Group. which includes youngsters from inner-city estates in North Tyneside and New castle. The bond was formed. during the 1993 Tall Shins Race when some of the youngsters enjoyed a sail

training course on the ship. The Tovarisch was brought. back to Tyneside in April by the Coalition Against Crime, which bought 1,200 sail training places for underprivileged youngsters. The group was originally told the *Tovarisch* could be repaired for £500,000. She is now at North-Shields, as the support group try to raise funds to sail her.

Footballer jailed for killing man with a kick

BY JOANNA BALE

A SOCCER player was jailed for five years yesterday for killing a man by kicking his head like a football.

James Kelly, 22, of first division club Wolverhampton Wanderers, was seen to volley" Peter Dumphy in an early, morning brawl outside a hotel after being refused entry to a was told that Mr Dunphy, 26, died immediately

Mr Justice Kay told Kelly, who admitted mansiaughter: It may well be that a sentence. of imprisonment will ruin your chosen career, but you will be able to rebuild your life in the future. The deceased is denied that opportunity."

Kelly's 23-year-old brother. John, and Kevin Atkinson were jailed for nine months after admitting assault. The assault happened when Kelly, of Willenhall, West Midlands. and his friends were refused entry to the Bradford Hotel in Liverpool in September 1994. A night porter who heard a distinctive crack, told police: "I don't think he could have kicked him any harder." Afterwards, Kelly shouted: "You wanted it and you got it. You should have let us in." The former England and Wolves Graham Taylor, described Kelly as "extremely popular, trustworthy and with an excellent reputation.

Pollution inspectors prepare for dirty fight

BY NICK NUTTALL

INSPECTORS joining the new Environment Agency will be offered clip-on ties, ultrasonic stun-guns and courses in unarmed combat to deal with scrapmetal mer-

fried ...

内をきて *

48.€, ∸

Marie 1

chants with big dogs.

The agency, which comes into force in the spring, merges the National Rivers spectorate of Pollution rional waste authorities. A priority is to crack down on flytippers and companies us-

tors will be better placed to pick up the illegal shipping of hazardous wastes from one on to another. Dr Peter Hinchcliffe, head of waste regulation, said inspectors were likely to face violent situations as "they turned up the heat on some of the small operators who have ignored proper waste disposal

Ed Gallagher, chief execurecently been on a course in they can deal with the illegal cad of the waste disposal maket safely. By this I mean the scrapmetal dealer with

Rattle to step down as musical director

By Dalya Alberge arts correspondent

SIR Simon Rattle is to step down as musical director of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, it was announced last night. By 1998, when Rattle's con-

tract expires, he will have been with them for 18 years; he joined the CBSO in 1980 as principal conductor and became music director in 1991. After his contract ends, he will work with them as a guest conductor. Edward Smith, chief executive of the CBSO, said Sir Simon had not been ap-

pointed to another orchestra. Rattle, 41, who is widely regarded as the most brilliant conductor of his generation, said last night: "The position of music director requires 150 per cent energy and commitment, and there are only so many years that any person can keep up the sheer intensity necessary. I will look forward to giving the orchestra I love and respect so much, of my best as a guest from 1998 on-wards. I will continue to work. with the CBSO more than any other orchestra — our musical



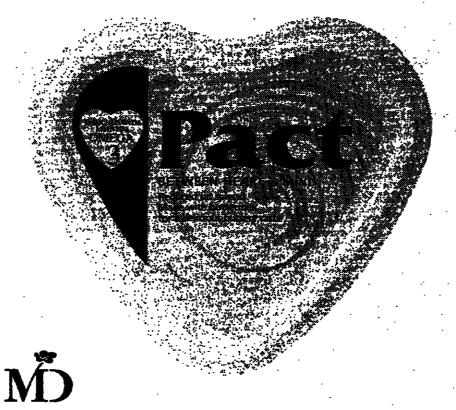
Rattle will continue to work with CBSO

satisfying and fulfilling that any musician could imagine. With the consistent wholehearted support of the city, we have travelled a long road and have remained not only a good team but good friends." Rattle has been acclaimed as a guest conductor with

orchestras round the world. Sir Michael Checkland, the CBSO's chairman, said: "All of us cannot thank Sir Simon enough for his outstanding and challenging artistic lead ership over so many years. It has been his total dedication to the orchestra which has trans-

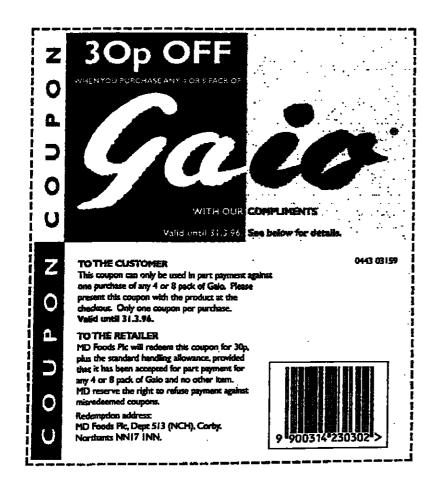
It's a matter of taste.

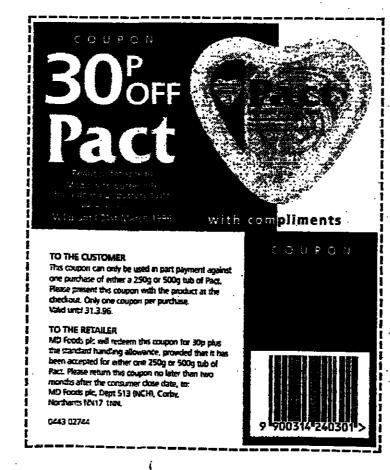




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Publisher sues actress over 'fragmented and implausible' manuscript

Joan Collins fights for pride and \$4m after novel setback

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

New York Court yesterday "to speak for many authors" in a dispute with the publisher who rejected a novel that took her two and a half years to

Miss Collins is being sued by Random House for the return of a \$1.2 million advance after she delivered a "fragmented and implausible" manuscript for A Ruling Pas-sion, a potboiler of the sex and shopping genre. Miss Collins. 62, denies that the manuscript is unusable and is counterswing for the rest of the \$4 million contract.

The Dynasty actress's arrival at central Manhattan's courthouse brought a touch of soap opera to the building's municipal sobriety. In a blaze of flashbulbs she declared: "I did what I was asked. They reneged on their part. If you dedicate two and a half years of your life to writing two novels and then they say they

JOAN COLLINS swept into a don't want them. I do think were shortcomings in her that is very cruel."

Inside the court Robert Callagy, representing Random House, told the jury: "Just because someone comes to this court as a movie star does not mean you can ignore a contract." Miss Collins must be treated "just like any per-son". Mr Callagy said she had guaranteed to deliver a complete manuscript for two nov-els, the first of which was A Ruling Passion. One incom-plete manuscript was followed

by nothing for the second, entitled Hell Hath No Fury. To the left of Judge Ira Gammerman, from an anteroom, courthouse workers peered through a door at the actress, who was dressed in a black suit, black boots and a white silk shirt. The case went out live on a local cable TV

Mr Callagy said that in letters to Random House Miss Collins had admitted there

manuscript. "This is just a very rough draft," she wrote. Mr Callagy added: "The character development is not there. the time-frame is out of whack. Contrived subplots are missing." Miss Collins appeared to blush and she shook her

Kenneth Burrows, repre-senting Miss Collins, said that Random House was "try-ing to twist and distort plain English to save itself from two contracts it signed with her". Random House is one of the most powerful publishers in the world, he said, yet it withheld editorial assistance from Miss Collins "once it realised it could never sell enough books to make that money back".

Leaked extracts from A Ruling Passion reveal a plot centred on European royalty. It offers analysis of men's chat-up lines, of Roman "studs" and middle-aged lust.



Joan Collins arriving for the case yesterday. It was covered live on television

Was this the man she loved? The man two short months ago that she had promised to ove and honour till death parted them? Alain looke puffy, debauched, strung-out His yellow hair was beginning to be laced with grey now and there were tired lines running from his nose to his mouth.

What have you been doing, Alain? Tell me the truth. piease, becanse i know." "Know what, cheric?" His face was a picture of boyish innocence. "What do you think you know, my little

"Don't call me your little cabbage," she said savagely. "I'm nobody's cabbage. Not yours, not anyone's." What is it?" he asked. This isn't like you. What's

wrong, Venetia? "You're gay, aren't you, Alain?" she asked caimly. "You're still gay, after all these years." He stared at her, his eyes so blue like hers, doleful, then he drained his glass of vodka and went to pour another. "Who told ou?" he answered huskily.

They couldn't believe it when they saw the rushes. Vene-tia's young bronzed body filled the screen, writhing. moaning and screaming in paroxysms of pleasure which, Fabio could tell with an unaccustomed flash of jeal-ousy, were not faked ... both men knew they had



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Seaman saved by sister who begged Bligh's pardon

By Alan Hamilton and John Vincent

LETTERS chronicling efforts to secure a pardon for a young midshipman sentenced to death after the mutiny on the Bounty are expected to fetch

up to £80,000 at auction. Peter Heywood. a teenager from the Isle of Man, was saved by his sister from a hanging despite the best efforts of his former commanding officer to condemn him. The letters will rekindle the long-standing debate on whether the master of the Bounty, Captain William Bligh, was the heartless martinet portrayed by Holly-wood or a steadfast man of

Captain Bligh does not emerge well from the 200page archive, collected initially by Heywood's family and now being offered for sale by an Oxfordshire collector. Heywood went on to have a distinguished career, rising to

the rank of captain. In a letter to Heywood's uncle informing him that his nephew was among the Bounty mutineers. Bligh wrote on March 26, 1790: "His ingratitude to me is of the blackest dye, for I was a father to him in every respect. I very much regret that so much baseness form'd the character of a young man I had a real regard for, and it will give me much pleasure to hear that his friends can bear the loss of him without much concern."

The efforts by Nessy. Heywood's sister, to secure a pardon may have cost her dear she died a year later. apparently of exhaustion.

Her case rested largely on a letter, also in the archive, from Heywood to their mother in which he said he had remained aboard the Bounty with Fletcher Christian, the leading mutineer, only because he believed that Captain Bligh and the loyal lieutenants who were abandoned in mid-ocean in an

open boat would probably be killed by natives. Heywood wrote: "I never to my knowledge whilst under his command behaved myself in a manner unbecoming to the

station I occupied." David Park, manuscripts specialist at the auctioneer Bonhams, said that the letters indicated Heywood's pardon was justified. "Bligh's blood was up and he wanted revenge, whatever the cost to a young midshipman who may just have been in the wrong place at the wrong time. This archive shows just how keen he was for vengeance."



Heywood: rose to the rank of captain

ional Maritime Museum at Greenwich, where a Navy inquiry exonerated Bligh and decreed that he had been the victim of a blatant piratical act, said yesterday: "Bligh was not the flogger that Hollywood has made him out to be. He always made sure that his men had dry clothing and hot drinks ... but he did have an unfortunate manner with people. We all know

someone like that." The auction, on March 20. will include a chunk of wood from the Bounty's rudder and rudimentary scales used by Bligh and his officers to after they were cast adrift.

Blue light wins favour in a flash

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

PERSONAL blue flashing lights, which caused derision when they were first tested by police in London, are to be issued by Scotland Yard to all officers who request them.

Initially officers reacted to the tiny strobes, which are clipped to the shoulder or chest, by imitating police car sirens. But the flashing lights, which are similar to those used by cyclists, quickly won acclaim. They are now used to identify officers involved in incidents in isolated areas or

road accidents. The lights were first intro-duced in Kingston, Chingford, Marylebone, Kentish Town. Teddington and Hampton last March at the suggestion of an inspector. Officers found them particularly helpful if they were searching on a roof or walking across railway tracks.

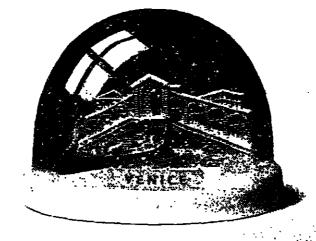
They could also be useful in Underground tunnels and when searching areas of wasteland or fields. Inspector

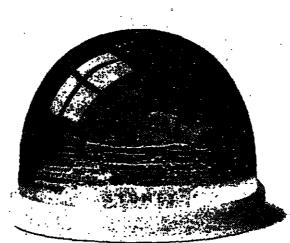
Michael Hallowes, who thought up the idea, said at first officers imitated police car sirens after putting the lights on. "Often the initial reaction during early trials was to laugh. But once they

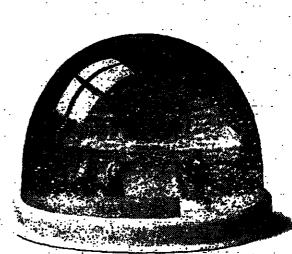
were in use, attitudes changed to enthusiasm." he said. □ Officers on the beat should continue to wear their traditional helmets, the Police Superintendents' Association said yesterday. It spoke out after the Greater Manchester force became the first in England and Wales to announce that helmets would be replaced by chequered caps as

part of a uniform redesign. Chief Superintendent Brian Mackenzie, the association's president, said the helmet symbolised the policeman and should not be jettisoned lightly. But David Wilmot, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, said there was overwhelming demand from

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Hundreds of asthma deaths 'are due to wrong treatment'

MORE than 1,000 people are dying from asthma in Britain year because doctors prescribe the wrong drugs, experts said yesterday. Many chronic sufferers are given treatments that relieve their wheezing but do not tackle the underlying condition. Under-treatment can result

in permanent damage to the lungs and increases the risk of a severe attack leading to hospitalisation or death. A global campaign has now heen launched to improve treatment of the condition, which affects 150 million people worldwide.

It has risen by more than 50 per cent in most affluent countries since 1970 but the reasons for the rise are not understood. Asthma is the only preventable disease for which deaths in Europe and the America have risen over

the past 20 years.

The Global Initiative for Asthma, started by the World Health Organisation and the US National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, has produced

treatment guidelines for doctors and patients. Dr Romain Pauwels, chairman of the initiative and Professor of Respiratory Diseases at the University of Chent, Belgium, said yesterday: "Between 60 and 70 per cent of deaths from asthma could be prevented with modern treatment. We are confident 100,000 lives a year could be saved worldwide by our programme. Modern treatment can reverse the disease and allow most of

Advice has changed since the mid-1980s, when patients were told to use bronchodilators to ease their wheezing and switch to anti-inflammasteroid inhalers only when their disease became too severe to control in this way. Now experts say patients using a bronchodilator three times a week should switch immediately to inhaled ste-

those affected to lead a normal

roids to prevent damage to their lungs.

Professor Albert Sheffer of Harvard Medical School said: Earlier intervention with inhaled anti-inflammatory drugs gives the best hope for a future free of asthma. Nobody should die, lose a night's sleep or a day's work."

Dr Martyn Partridge, a consultant chest physician in London, said that British studies showed a quarter of asthma patients were being prescribed bronchodilators at a level which suggested they should have been switched to inhaled steroids. 'Giving bronchodilators is

sticking a plaster on a boil. It does not treat the underlying condition. he said. The global initiative is funded by 15 drug companies. Panel members said that, although inhaled steroids are

more expensive, they save

costs by reducing hospital

The new Club World seat. A huge improvement.

admissions and days lost.

like painting over rust or

Donor puts 'fatally ill' baby on road to recovery

هكذا ون الاصل

By TIM JONES

A BABY who has spent most of her seven months in a sterile plastic bubble has returned from hospital in Neweastle to Ireland after recovering from a usually fatal condition. Soon after Carol O'Gorman was born, Breda, her mother, told her three other children that their new sister would die.

Carol was diagnosed as suffering from Severe Com-bined Immunodeficiency, a rare genetic flaw in which the body's main defence against infection is not properly

Dr Terry Flood, a special-ist in paediatric immunology at Newcastle General Hospital, knew her only hope lay in a bone marrow transplant. No donors could be found in her family but, against the odds, an unrelated donor was found and her condition improved, although she remains ill.



clue may rewrite treatment By Nigel Hawkey science EDITY

A NEW approach to treating rheumatoid arthritis could come from studies at Birming-am University that have clarified the causes of the disease. Professor Paul Bacon, of the

department of rheumatology, said that the discoveries had revolutionised the way scientists thought about the disease. Far from being the product of an overactive immune system, he said, it is caused by an immune system that is too sluggish in some drugs that aim to suppress the immune system may be the wrong approach to treating

Rheumatoid arthritis often starts as a flu-like illness. The body's immune system pro-duces killer T-cells to desimy the infection and, once they have done so, they should disappear in a process known as apoptosis. In arthritis, the Birmingham work has shown, these cells linger in the joints, causing damage that leads to chronic disease and paig.

Consultant says he was framed over man's death

By RICHARD DUCE

A CONSULTANT told the George Carman, QC, for High Court vesterday that a MGN, said. "You realise you High Court yesterday that a former Health Secretary, a senior civil servant and health chiefs orchestrated a plot in which he was "framed and set up" when the death of a patient exposed a shortage of

neurosurgical beds. Anthony Percy accused Virginia Bottomley of conspiring with William Wells, chairman of South Thames Regional Health Authority, to deflect criticism from the fact that a dying patient had to be flown 200 miles from Queen Mary's Hospital, Sidcup, to a bea in Leeds. Mr Percy, 55, said the plot involved Stephen Collinson, chief executive of Queen Mary's Hospital, and a senior

civil servant. . h ... p Mr Percy was called "Dr Dolittle" by the Daily Mirror after he was criticised in: a ort for not attending colm Murray, who was taken to Queen Mary's Hospital with serious head injuries. Mr Percy is claiming damages from Mirror Group Newspapers which he claims suggested in an article on March 29 and two further reports that he was guilty of gross derelic-tion of duty, bore some responsibility for Mr Murray's death and should be suspended. The

publisher denies libei. Mr Percy said Mr Collinson had sent him a letter saying it was politically inevitable that scapegoats would be required. are making extremely serious allegations?" Mr Percy: "A very serious allegation has been made against me. The facts were manipulated.

Mr Carman: "Are you suggesting that the inquiries were conducted dishonestly?" Mr Percy: "If manipulation I dishonest. Manipulation is a word I would prefer to use. Earlier Mr Percy of Bickley, Kent, said: I feel like a criminal. I feel that my

reputation and my whole life is in question and I feel very strongly about it. I shall live with those headlines for the He said that, in an action

Collinson three weeks after Mr Murray died, he was put

interviewed two weeks earlie by an inquiry panel at Queen Mary's Hospital during a "friendly and informal" meeting when no criticism was levelled against him. In a report by Mr Wells for the South Thames authority, Mr Percy was criticised for failing to attend the hospital but Mr Percy said he was never interviewed by the chairman or any other members of the inquiry team. The trial continues.

Schoolgirl 'bride' flies home denying she is pregnant

BY BULL FROST AND ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

SARAH COOK, the 13-year old girl who illegally married a Turkish waiter she met on a family holiday, was back in Britain last night having denied reports that she was

pregnant.
The teenager arrived at Heathrow yesterday afternoon on a Turkish Airlines jet. accompanied by her mother. Jackie, 39, who, according to Miss Cook, had convinced to return home. Dressed in a peasant headscarf and long, red coat, Miss Cook was last off the flight. Turkey had paid a regretful farewell to the girl from Braintree, Essex, who had earned the title of the "nation's daughter-in-law".

Aksyon, a weekly news mag-

azine of Islamic bent, believed that the pressure for her to return had been caused less out of concern for her welfare and more out of anger that she had rejected her Western roots. The girl's mother came to symbolise, in parts of the Turkish press, the wrath of a scorned Western culture. Torn between two mothers." said the daily Hurriyet with Miss Cook depicted between her mother (in stretch pants) and mother-in-law (with her head covered, in Islamic fash-

ion, like the girl). Yesterday at Heathrow police covered Miss Cook's head with a blanket as they escorted her to a car, and Mrs driven away to avoid the did not go, they might have



but, the girl told journalists that, contrary to stories in the Turkish press, she was not pregnant. Her father in law had told a news agency that she was expecting his son's

When asked about Musa Komeagac, the 18-year-old she had "married" in his home village of Kahramannarus and who is now in jail on a charge of statutory rape, Miss Cook said: They are taking my husband away. We will wait for each other and I will return to him as soon as I can if I get my passport back."

The teenager, who had been ordered back to Britain by a High Court judge on Jamuary 26, said she had not wanted in return. However, having b made a Ward of Court, she felt she had no alternative. "If I

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Doctor with dog took 75% pay cut for job in Britain

paid for his rottweiler and eight-year-old pick-up truck to be brought from Missourisaid yesterday they were all he had left after a messy divorce settlement.

As part of the relocation package for Dr Craig Baldwin, who has remarried, the Hartlepool General Hospital in Cleveland agreed to pay £2,300 for quarantine and travel for Fritz and shipping

the vehicle.

Dr Baldwin, 52, who was recruited as a £52,000 a year consultant anaesthetist, said he had decided to make a fresh start here with his new wife Tricia, 51. "I have spent 12 years going back and forth to court. I was left nearly bankrupt. I liquidated myassets and handed them over to her this ex-wife so she would leave me alone.

"I agreed to come over to work in England as long as my dog and truck came and

AN AMERICAN doctor tion expense I hope people whose new British employers do not think I am costing the trust extortionate amounts of money. I took a 70 per cent pay cut to come here.

"There were many reasons I wanted to come to England. but one thing that would have stopped me was if Fritz could not come. I don't think it was unreasonable of the trust to pay the bill. I didn't make the quarantine laws. My truck is a 1988 GMC pickup with 75,000 miles on the clock. The resule value would be virtually nil 1 need a vehicle and could not afford where prices are double those

in the States."

- Brian Hanson, chairman of the Peterlee and Hartlepool NHS Trust, said: "Naflorally, there is a problem getting qualified staff and some trusts have had to hire consultants at double the going rate, paying £100,000. We have avoided doing that and believe this one-off pay-ment was money well spent."



Craig Baldwin was prepared to work here only if Fritz and the vehicle came too

Peer suffered from rare condition

Duke's death caused by drug poisoning

THE mystery surrounding the death of the Duke of Northumberland, one of Britain's most flamboyant peers, was cleared up yesterday when an inquest was told that he died of amphetamine poisoning.

An earlier hearing was ad-journed after a post-mortem examination had failed to find a natural cause for the 17-stone duke's collapse.

The 42-year-old bachelor was taking a daily average of 20 of the tablets, which can be used as a recreational drug. but had been prescribed for a rare medical condition.

The 11th duke, a godson of the Oueen, had almost four times as much amphetamine in his system when he died as most people would have who were using the drug therapeu-tically. "He didn't intend the outcome," said Dr John Burton, the West London Coroner. therefore I will put it down as an accidental death."

The duke, Richard Henry

The duke was found dead in his bedroom

Alan Walter Percy, was found dead by his valet, Brinnley Moralee, at Syon House in west London. The duke's body was by his bed and he appeared to have died while getting up. His tablets were arranged on a cabinet.

Margery Meakes, personal assistant to the duke, said: He would fall asleep often during the day because he

couldn't sleep at night." The coroner read a report

condition began to deteriorate in his early 20s. He lost weight and developed depression. He was prescribed am-phetamine and then became

very heavy.
David O'Connell, the duke's doctor since 1990, diag-nosed a rare disorder of the glands, hypogonadotrophic hypogonadism, which causes sleep problems and excess weight. The duke was given Dexedrine, which contains amphetamine, to keep him awake during the day. To reverse that, he was prescribed sleeping pills for the night. By August 1995, he was taking a daily average of 20 Dexedrine pills and up to 20

Parstelin. The coroner said: "There is absolutely no question of these being used as drugs of addic-tion in this case."

Dr Richard Shepherd, a pathologist at Guy's Hospital. said death was due to amphetamine poisoning causing an irregular heart beat which led to heart failure.

onsultant, e was fra er man's

Judge held | Appeal over responsible for damage to boat

DAMAGE to a fishing vessel was the legal responsibility of a judge who had ordered it to be seized, the Admiralty Court

ruled yesterday.
Judge Richard Holloway
signed a document in April 1992 ordering bailiffs to immobilise the Sincerity S at Fisherman's Wharf in Maryport, Cumbria, in an action over an alleged £734 debt. However, two engineers who carried out the job, by removing fuel pipes, also dislodged a rubber pipe allowing sea wat-er to leak into the vessel. It had to be pumped out by the fire

brigade.

Dennis Tunstall, the boat's owner, took the judge and the engineers Joseph Pirt and Co to the Admiralty Court in London. Yesterday Mr Justice. Clarke said the damage was caused by negligence and that a district judge was responsible for the acts or defaults of a

Mr Tunstall was awarded £9,000 and most of the costs, estimated at a total of £30,000. However, the district judge was spared from having to find his share of the money -Mr Justice Clarke ordered that the engineers should indemnify him.

The damages were to cover the drop in the vessel's value. Mr Tunstall had asked for

racial slip dismissed as fanciful

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A JUDGE who used the phrase "nigger in the wood-pile" during a case in which a man of mixed race sought damages from the police has been cleared of racial bias by the Court of Appeal,

The comment was made in 1994 by Judge Bernstein during summing up at Liver-pool County Court in the case of Valentine Reid, who was seeking £50.000 from Mer-scyside. Police for alleged

malicious prosecution.

Judge Bernstein, 64, was
referring to white police officers when she made the remark. After losing his acremark. Aper tosing his ac-tion. Mr. Reid appealed on the basis that, even though the judge immediately apolo-gised; she should have stopped the case upon letting Peter Herbert, of the Soc

cty of Black Lawyers, said in the appeal court that the judge had displayed racial bias even if it was unintentional, Lord Justice Waite, sitting with Lords Justices Beldam and Morritt, said that while it was right to highlight the risk of prejudice in racially sensitive times, it was "fanciful" to suggest that any jury would have been influenced by the ark. Mr Reid's appeal



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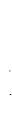
They're both available in pearlescent Nightfire Red and White Diamond. Or in this case, metallic Kingfisher Blue.

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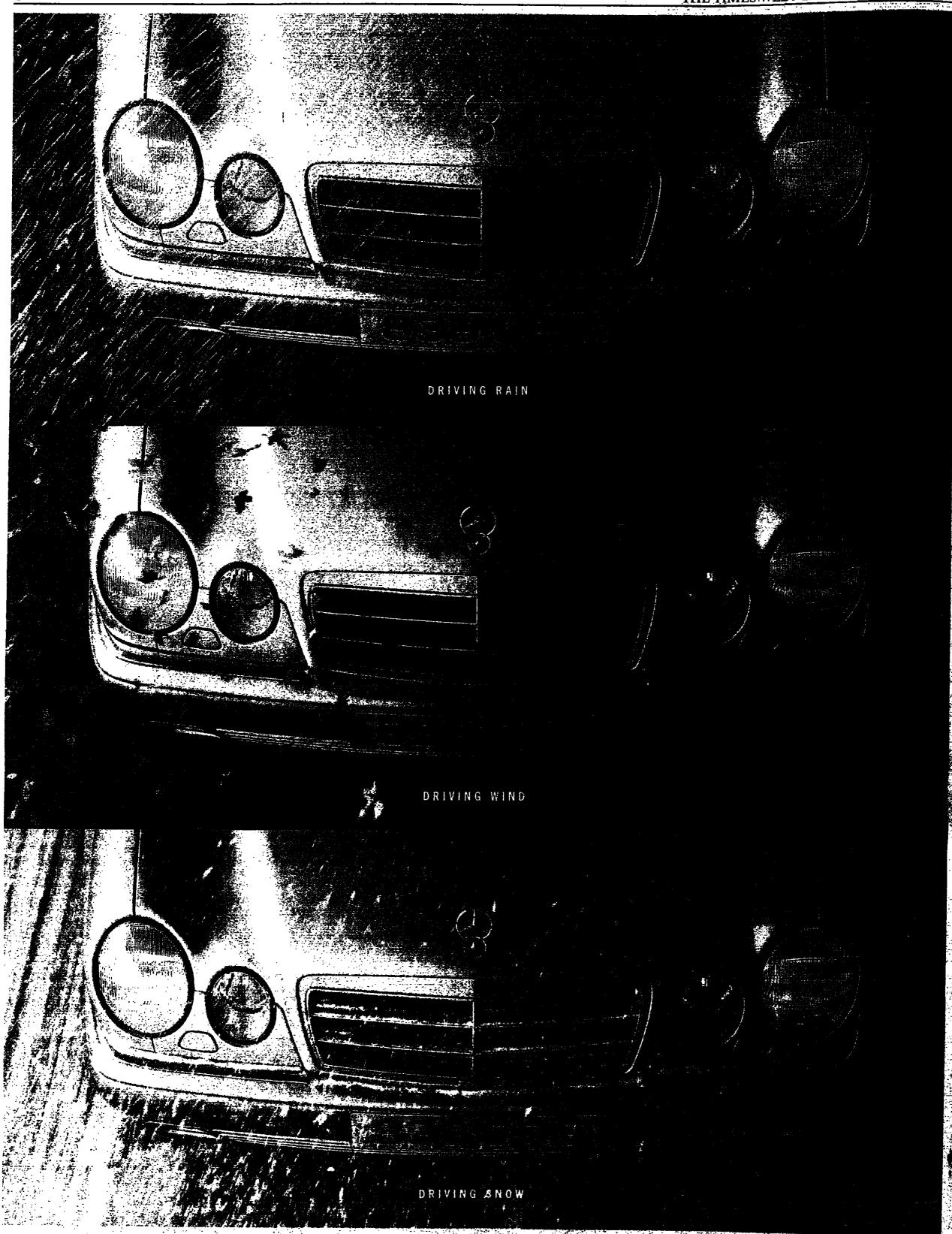
DINING OUT IS always a pleasure, but with The Times Ear Out For £5 offer, starting on Monday, February 12, it is also easily affordable. To apply, cut out the vouchers which are appearing daily in The Times until Saturday, February 17. Each voucher entitles you and up to five companions to dine at more than 400 participating restaurants featured in our guide. (If you missed Monday's paper, you can order a guide by sending two first class stamps to: The Times Eat Out For E5 offer, PO Box 481, London E1 9BD.) All reservations and inquiries should be made by phone to the restaurant and you must mention The Times offer when you make your booking. Corrections: the number of the Millstream Hotel and restaurant, Bosham Lane, Bosham, Sussex, is 01243 573234 and not as stated on page 19 of the guide. Note that the Millstream is not the same as the Bosham Hotel and Restaurant.



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House Harring

A year ago a woman had her throat slashed on a country road. Today her killer is still at large

Motiveless murder leaves twin sister struggling to cope

THE past few days have been hard for Elsie Wilson, a slight, silver-haired Yorkshire farmer's wife. She has been gathering her courage to face the anniversary this weekend of the savage and motiveless murder of her twin sister.

A year ago on Friday Margaret Wilson was attacked as she walked home from her daughter's house to the family farm on the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds village of Burton Fleming. Two men working in a field saw a motorist stop his car and jog several hundred yards back to slash her throat and leave her dying on the roadside with a gaping wound.

The attack stunned the close-knit rural community, where murder is viewed as the stuff of TV and the distant big cities. Edwin Wilson, Marga-



Margaret Wilson: her killer left few clues

ret's husband, and their son Alan were working only hundreds of yards away and were among the first on the scene. They know that the motiveless nature of the killing means finding the murderer is well

A year on, despite wide-

spread publicity, police admit they face an uphill struggle. The 6ft attacker, aged about 30 with collar-length dark hair. vanished, leaving almost no clues. Even the unusual murder weapon, a stubby blunt-ended knife, designed for shoe-making, has failed to provide a conclusive lead.

Elsie Wilson lives less than 400 yards from the murder scene. "I see it every day, but you just have to get on with life, you push thinking about it out of your head," she said. She has lived all her 67 years within five miles of the family home and cannot countenance

moving.

Mrs Wilson and Alan, her nephew, agreed to a police request to break their yearlong silence and speak to the media in an attempt to find new clues. As Mrs Wilson offered journalists traditional hospitality -- home-made fruit



Margaret, left, and Elsie Wilson at their joint wedding in 1948 to two local brothers; and as Girl Guides. The twins had always been clo

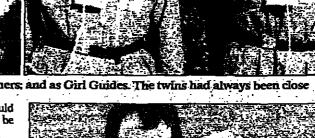
cake and tea — she said: People have asked me if. as a twin, I had felt some premonition of Margaret's death, but no. I knew nothing. I had been in the hairdressers when my husband told me. I could not believe it. I do miss her."

The sisters were close. They grew up together on the Wolds, both joining the Brownies and Guides and falling in love with two local brothers. They had a joint wedding in 1948 and honeymooned together in the Lake District. They were preg-

we think he must be, he could nant at the same time twice. They would often joke about do it again and they could be choosing the same greetings cards for relatives. the next victim.

Detectives have traced 3,000 Alan Wilson still finds it white Montego estates similar difficult to accept the death. "I to the killer's and taken 5,000 statements. The offer of a £15,000 reward by Humber-side Police and Crimestoppers come in expecting her to be there, or think of something I must tell her. She was simply the best mother in the world." has had no effect. He and his aunt are con-

Detective Superintendent Tony Corrigan, leading the investigation, said the killing vinced someone is sheltering the killer. "A wife or girlfriend remained an enigma, but add-ed: "I am convinced there are must be aware that something was wrong that day," he said. They should come forward still people holding informanow. If he is as unhinged as tion which might help us."



No end in sight to the grief. Alan and Elsie Wilson

REITH LECTURE

Why a healthy language has to sometimes break the rules

By Tunku Varadarajan

IS OUR language sick? Jean Aitchison asked last night. with a clear flavour of rhetoric. Professor Aitchison, who holds the Rupert Murdoch chair of Language and Communication at Oxford University, sought to answer her own stion in the first of five Reith Lectures — entitled The

Language Web - on Radio 4. The professor, a linguist, believes that English, far from being sick, is in rude good bealth. Last night's lecture. playing on her theme of a language-web. focused on a web of worries" — trivial anxieties about the state of

our language. Professor Aitchison asserted that English changes con-

stantly, and that such transformation "is a fact of life". Even Chaucer, in the 14th century. noted that "in forme of speche and she believes that the same is true today. But change the argued. must not be confused with decay — an arthe

is chaunge". such gument made at greater length in her elegant book Language Change Progress or Decay?. first pub-lished in 1991. British English. emphatically, is not changing

for the worse. On the contrary, the Reith lecturer may have come tantalisingly close to arguing that English is changing for

the better. She did not say so explicitly, of course, but she did refer with approval to the modern-day loosening of some of the language's "artificial rules". These pseudo-rules she dales, in many cases, to the 18th century. Around 1700, the seemingly fixed grammar

of Latin aroused great admiration, at a time when English itself was in a fairly fluid state," she said.

Professor Aitchison even cited a letter to the Lord

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Treasurer from Jonathan Swift, urging the formation of an academy to regulate language usage — comparable, one assumes, to the modern Académie Française.
Swift believed, as did Rob-

ert Lowth, an 18th-century Bishop of London, that Latin usages would fertilise a "correct English". Professor Attchison gave listeners a few examples of these "artificially imposed rules". The apparent prohibition of "different to" she described as "a misguided attempt to make English behave more like Latin". She has often mounted the same defence in favour of split

Futhermore, she asserted that it is only due to an old and illogical be-lief that logic should govern language" that English has a ban on the double negative. "This is odd." Professor Aitchison declared, 'because in most languages of the world, the more negatives.

the stronger the negation. The central message of last night's lecture was that we need to understand language, not try to control it. When ne w forms flood in and wipe away older us-

Aitchison: defended flexible English

ages. the process should not be likened to "disintegration". "Sweeping up old oddments is good housekeeping." Professor Aitchison pointed out. in the accessible manner that

is her trademark. In her second Reith Lecture next Tuesday, the professor will lecture on the origin of language in the human spe-cies. "Crucial to its development," she said intriguingly last night. "were two loosely woven webs. a web of deceiand a web of friendship."

☐ Professor Aitchison's Reith Lectures will be broadcast for the next four Tuesdays at 8.30pm on BBC Radio 4.

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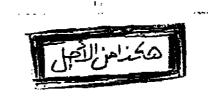
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Tories warn of collision course for Scots parliament



Mackay: field day

POLITICAL EDITOR

A TAX-RAISING Scottish parliament could soon be in a permanent confrontation with Westminster, the Lord Chancellor says today as the political parties prepare for a fresh battle on constitutional

Tony Blair, delivering the John Smith memorial lecture in London tonight, will outline Labour's plans for Scottish and Welsh devolution, reform of the House of Lords.

freedom of information and a Bill of Rights. He will also call for a that the Tory defence of the status quo will fuel public dissatisfaction with politics.

At the same time Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman, will launch a pre-emptive strike against Mr Blair's proposals for a Scottish parliament, claiming that they are a direct threat to the survival of the United Kingdom because they would put the parliament on a collision course with campaign the Tories intend to run against the "tartan tax", Mr Mawhinney will question why Labour MPs sitting for Scottish seats but paid in London should be exempt from a tax they wish to impose on their constituents.

Writing in The Times today, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, makes a rare foray into the constitutional debate, saying that giving Scotland tax-raising powers could lead to a "field day for the lawyers". He questions why tax-

raising powers should be given if politicians are arguing that they may not be needed. To increase taxes uniquely in Scotland would be had for Scotland. But in the unlikely event of the powers being used to lower taxes, protound constitutional as well as as economic issues would arise. How long would English MPs continue to vote more money to Scotland than: to their own constituents, only to see it used to fund tax cuts north of

He adds: "A tax-raising Scottish

parliament would soon be in permament confrontation Vestminster. Break up of the United Kingdom would then be but a step away."

The Labour leader, however, will use his speech to go on the offensive, trying his aides said, to change constitutional reform from a chattering classes issue into a radical populist vote-winner. He will challenge the Government to say whether it thinks that the constitution works well. He will say that "power to the people is not a

slogan but a necessity if we are to reconnect politics with the people.

Mr Mawhinsey will make plain that the constitution is the near front in the anti-Labour offensive He will argue that representative government, the rule of law and personal liberty — among the Union's historic achievements are threatened by Labour's plans He will repeat claims that a Scottist parliament would have a tarian price tag" of 3p on income tax.

Lord Mackay, page 18

MPs back

curb on

explicit

teenage

magazines By JAMES LANDALE

POLITICAL REPORTER

A TORY backbench move

aimed at curbing the sale to

young children of sexually explicit teenage girls maga-

zines cleared its first Com-

mons hurdle yesterday.

The Periodicals (Protection

of Children) Bill would require

magazines to carry cover-page warnings about articles that

may be unsuitable for readers

below a certain age. Peter Loff,

Tory MP for Worcester, intro-

duced the Bill after reading

magazines bought by his 10-

He said yesterday. These

magazines undermine the val-

ue and unportance of sex. I want to help parents and schools by making it easier to learn what is inside. I want

editors and publishers to de-cide what their lowest target

age is for each magazine, and

say so on the front cover." Most ten-minute rule Bills

are used to publicise an issue

and farely have any chance of

becoming law. But Mr Loff's

Bill, given its first reading

without a vote vesterday, has

Some retailers recent

banned a magazine for child

ren aged 10 to 17 betause it offered explici advice perform-

ing oral sex. Mr Luff told MPs

zines such as Sugar, Mizz, its

Bliss, 19 and More! often

degenerated into squalid titi-lation, salaciousness and

a kind more usually seen on

the walls of public lavatories. Simon Hughes Lab Dem.

Southwark and Bernsmusey) said that the Commons had to

proceed carefully. We must not end up with an age marking that makes these magazines more appealing

rather than less appealing."

Tory sources said that if the

L did not succeed the Gov-

widespread support.

year-old daughter.

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Give the poor a sporting chance, peers demand

By ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

PEERS from all sides of the House queued up yesterday to denounce the Government over its plans for television

They were speaking on the first amendment of the Broadcasting Bill, which would deny subscription channels exclusive rights to broadcast eight major sporting events. Most emphasised that it was vital to keep the main sports events available on mainstream television because only 15 per cent of viewers had satellite or

Several peers aimed their criticism at Rupert Murdoch. chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, parent company of News International, BSkyB satellite TV service is 40 per cent owned by News International, which owns The Times.

Lord Howell, a former Labour Sports Minister, was one of the sponsors of the amendment. He told the Lords that they were fighting for the "ethic and spirit" of sport as well as the economics and financing of major events.

'I have a profound belief in the social purpose of sport. In essence the social purpose of sport is best expressed through its spirit, commonly known as sportsmanship. These precepts are being increasingly undermined by the total domination within sport financial considerations

above all others. Lord Howell said that the Bill ignored up to 40 million could not afford Sky television. They ignore the elder-ly and the infirm, who now apparently can be sacrificed in the interests of one man - Mr

Rupert Murdoch," he said. He warned sporting companies not to become too enamoured by lucrative deals with BSkyB. "Anybody who wants to get into bed with Mr Murdoch never gets out of bed the same man," he said.

Lord Peyton of Yeovil, a

former Tory minister, admitted there were detailed problems with the amendment but said that peers should support it as "a nudge to the Government to produce something better to cope with some really difficult problems".

He warned the Government: There are many millions of the public who would find themselves very unhappy at being denied access to what are major national events simply because they could not

afford the gadgetry necessary. Lord Peyton described Mr Murdoch as "a man who owes this country no allegiance and who doesn't seem to be overwhelmed by admiration for its institutions or its way of doing things". He added: "I doubt whether there is any other





Wetherill: protecting 'crown jewels' of sport

country in the world which would have allowed a man who was a non-national to acquire quite the degree of immense power and influence which Mr Murdoch has, by his very great ability, achieved by himself."

But he was immediately criticised by the crossbencher Lord Wyatt of Weeford, who accused Lord Peyton of being "xenophobic" and disagreed with the amendment, "It is a concerted attack on one man because he has been more successful than others. The one thing people in this country don't like is people who have been successful, he said.

Lord Wyatt said that the BBC had never bothered to show the whole of the Ryder Cup when it had been the broadcast, but BskyB could. He said that the elderly and the young could watch sport free in pubs that had satellite relevision. "The BBC forces the elderly and infirm to

buy a TV licence," he said. He said that the horse racing industry had been bady hit by the National Lottery. Racing really deserves to get as much money back in as it can. I don't think it's impossi ble or wrong for anything racing owns to be sold to the highest bidder."

The former Commons Speaker Lord Weatherill, leader of the cross-benches, supported the amendment. "In recent days I have lost count of the number of people who have said to me: What so-called crown jewels of sport Bill? "

The former Home Secretary Viscount Whitelaw was one of only four out of 16 peers who spoke for the Government. He appealed to them to give the Government more time over the issue and leave the final decision to the Commons. "It is important to try and get it right. I don't think that would be by this measure at this



Clarke is struggling to reconcile pressures from conflicting camps

enneth Clarke yester-day tried to satisfy two contrasting audiences

voters worried about the welfare state and Tory MPs and activists keen for cuts in public spending. He was only partly successfully, and so may satisfy neither.

Politics is, of course, about reconciling conflicting aims. In the short-term, an adroit Chancellor can fulfil the desire of people both for better public services and cuts in taxation. But, in the long-term, the pressures cannot so easily be.

In his London School of

case for gradualism. He hardneeded to cite the riots in Paris before Christmas against social security changes as a warning against sudden reforms. Calls by the unthinking Right for cuts of £10 billion or more at a stroke are nonsense. Of course, there is always scope to eliminate waste but this can never be more than a partial contributor to cuts in overall spending. Long-standing commitments

no limits as to how much the cannot be torn up suddenly. There is no alternative to the piecemeal approach of Peter Lilley in limiting future com-mitments. Over time, these can produce sizeable savings.

result of these and other chanages the real growth of public spending has been limited to 1 per cent a year, compared with 12 per cent a year during the 1980s. Despite the recession — and big in-creases in spending before the 1992 election (though he did not mention these) - the peak cent of national income in the 1990s was two points less than a decade earlier and nearly four points less than in the mid-1970s. Moreover, spending is forecast to fall to 40 per cent within two years. And, Mr Clarke diplomatically added, he and the Prime Minister "have both said we will then aspire to reduce it further". As long as the economy continues to grow and spending is held down in real terms, there are

Mr Clarke argued that as a

share can be reduced though, unlike John Major, he did not refer to a 35 per cent

The absence of such a specific long-term target, or even aspiration, will not satisfy the Tory Right, but it is the limit of prudence as long as the Government claims, in Mr. Clarke's words, to be developing is strong welfare state.

He made a powerful case for free health and education services and a safety net for old age paid for out of general surance for people at a time of plementing more flexible markets by reducing fear of change and opposition to it". ut there are long-term

tensions between these commitments and spending restraint. Much can be done through structural changes to improve efficiency. But these savings are not sufficient to finance

Current plans for spending to reamin more or less constant in real terms imply a continuing squeeze in the real pay of public sector workers and cuits

in many popular pro-grammes. These cannot be sustained indefinitely. This is not an argument for a big rise in total spending, but rather a recognition that it can only be held down, let alone cut in real terms, if more provision is financed by the private sector. There is no reason why the There is no reason why the sport He acknowledged that public sector should remain. The magnifies sometimes the sole, or even predominant, gave sensible advice but said surplier. supplier of some services which people dearly want." This is already occurring in point out today, but it needs to happen elsewhere. Otherwise, despite Mr Clarke's best efforts, repeated squeezes on spending will merely result in more public complaints about inadequate services, with little reduction in the burden of

PETER RIDDELL

Leading article, page 19 or Exponential Parterialments forces proposed desure of Withers Morres Sutjon Coldinationals to the Bouedarshing JBI, or stage: health and sately in farmer TODAY in the Commons: he debetes jokewed by Poreign questions Labour-iplanted debate privational or and the "inherent of Post Office privationality", and be debate or septions worker if the coldinary in septions, scaler if it.

ducing a code of practice.

e Charles

Commons to vote on pay in July

By Phillip Webster

MPs will face a key vote in July on whether to accept an independent review that is aimost certain to recommend a big increase in their pay before the general election.

The Government has asked the Senior Salaries Review Body to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the pay, allowances and pensions of

MPs and ministers, calling for recommendations if possible by the end of June. The body is expected to recommend a new mechanism for determining the annual uprating of MPs pay without the need for a parliamentary decision.

MPs want to avoid what has become an annual embarrass-Alf Morris, a sponsor of the . system. We are now very glad

decision to hold an independent review. He said: "Nobody I know has asked for a doubling of MPs' pay. What the motion did and what unites us all is to make it clear that MPs pay should no longer be decided by MPs - an unwholesome, invidious and wrong

Yesterday's move follows talks between the party leaderships over the past few days. Both wanted to defuse the issue after protests from pov-June target date is regarded as highly important. Labour want the issue well out of the way before a general election that it expects to win.

BY PETER RIDDELL

THE Harriet Harman row has hardly dented Labour's support, according to the latest ICM poli for The Guardian. Half the public, including a half of Labour supporters. think that Ms Harman was right to send her son to a selective grammar school, despite Labour's opposition to explain why the affair has had so little impact on Labour's

The poll, undertaken between February 2 and 4, shows that Labour support has only declined by one point since early January to 47 per cent, according to ICM's adjustment of the figures. The Labour lead has narrowed from 22 to 16 points because support for the Tories has

risen from 26 to 31 per cent over the month. This is in line with other evidence suggesting that the Government's rating is beginning to pick up.

The Tories' gain was largely at the expense of the Liberal Democrats. whose support slipped from 22 to 19 per cent. These changes reflect a comaftermath of Emma Nichol-

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Indian women and state join forces to outlaw alcohol

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

THE north Indian state of had prohibition for years, in Haryana has announced that deference to the auti-alcohol all rural liquor stores must sentiments of the father of the close permanently by April 1. nation, but the ban is a farce.

The decision marks another attempt by politicians to control the nation's appetite for bootleggers. Hick stills are

The ban is a victory for women, who rose in anger be-cause so many of their hus-bands were spending their bition because the anti-drink meagre wages on alcohol at movement, backed by Hindu small government run shops.

Not that the ban will work, of gained such momentum. As in course; as in other states that have introduced prohibition, it will simply create a bootlegging industry and drive up

Andhra Pradesh; the big Janata Party, a Hindu nation-southern state where women alist political group, plan to launched an unprecedented enter the homes of Dalits campaign against the shops. (Untouchables) and low-caste Andhra Pradesh, the big has been experimenting with prohibition for a year. Women shaved the heads of drunken men after they passed out and they refused to cook or wash

went on sex strikes.

The result is that politicians moved into the illegal distilleries racket, enriching them selves while paying lip service to the evils of drink. Gujarat, the home state of Mahauma

Ganthelia Mentalina Pradesh complain that black market whiskey is triple the price of pre-prohibition days. Even the cost of the local toddy, arrack, has soared. The price of im-

common in the countryside. Every political party in Hagamed such momentum. As in Andhra Pradesh, women at-tacked higner shops and delivery vehicles to stop sales of drink in their villages.

Members of the Bharatiya people in Haryana in search of alcohol bottles that will be smashed in a public demon-stration. Similar gimmicks were employed by Hindurorg

huge in rural India: A stan-

Plundered treasure returns to Greece

FROM JOHN CARR

jewellery, possibly Europe's dard bottle costs about 900 oldest, has been returned to rupees (£16.60), which is more Greece two years after the than most people earn in a Government in Athens proved that an American art gallery was exhibiting them illegally.
The 312 pieces, mainly gold become a cottage industry in rural Andhra Pradesh, with

The distilling of arrack has

entire families engaged in the

trade. Local toddy tappers, who extract the principal in-

gredient for arrack from palm trees, are in greater demand now that whiskey is so expen-

sive on the black market.

Armack is often laced with

chemicals to give it extra kick, sometimes with fatal results.

Fines for possession of alco-

hol are high. Houses can be

raided without a warrant, government officials can be dismissed if caught drinking

and repeat offenders risk jail.

For the most part, people

One well-off man caught with three bottles of premium

whiskey said that he had had

to pay more than £2,000 to get

simply bribe the police.

the case dropped.

en rings, earrings, beads and bracelets, had been looted from an ancient grave site in southern Greece 19 years ago, officials of the Greek Culture Ministry said. After a bit of detective work, involving the perusal of a catalogue of New York's Michael Ward Gallery. Katerina Dimakopoulos, a senior ministry archaeologist, flew to America in March.

1993 to verify her suspicions. After eight months of legal fighting the Greek Government proved to an American been looted. The set was re-housed in the National Ar-chaeological Museum of Athens this week.

Mts Dimakopoulos cited a. Unesco convention of 1970 ed to 1,000 years before Peri-



The returned jewellery, including a signet ring, right, goes on display in Greece

which requires a claimant to prove that allegedly stolen antiquities came from a specific area. In this case, it was a group of 15th century BC graves at Aidonia in the Peloponnese, the site of the Mycensean Greek civilisation which fought the Trojan War.

When archaeologists first dug into the Aidonia graves in recent looting.

1978, they found evidence of From then on, Greek embassies and consulates

cles and the flourishing of classical Greek civilisation. Nicoletta Valakou, an archae ologist, said. The Greek Govcannot afford adequate protection for the thousands of sites containing ancient relics around the country, many of which are unguarded.

"Antiquity smuggling is a



Chalker tells king to allow democracy

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

A HINT by Britain to the tiny slow in introducing changes.

African kingdom of Swaziland Her visit on Monday to Mbathat the time has arrived to bane, the capital, came after come to terms with democracy an eight day general strike or face the economic consecutation much that crippled the quences was spurned yester-' country. Swaziland. landday when police arrested a locked between South Africa leading trade union official and Mozambique, is ruled by

Baroness Chalker of Wallar an absolute monarchy. sey, the Minister of Overseas After his talks with Lady Development, urged King Chalker King Mswati and Mswati III and his Govern posterior had be would revive ment ministers had be able to the control of the control



Mswati: monarch in troubled kingdom

npact

the 'suspended constitution and Scelenters on the type of political system the people wanted But last night, as the king's announcements were rejected by the country's largest underground political party, the People's United Democratic Movement, police in Mbalgane arrested Jabulani Ntamalo, assistant general emetary of the Swaziland Rederation of Trade Unions on perjucy and forgery charges dating back to 1984.

The Ederation has called for a second general strike from February 18, and a muon official in Whabark said he feared that the country was heading for bloodshed and

BRITISH GAS PROPOSALS TO CREATE TWO SEPARATE COMPANIES IN 1997

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WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR CUSTOMERS?

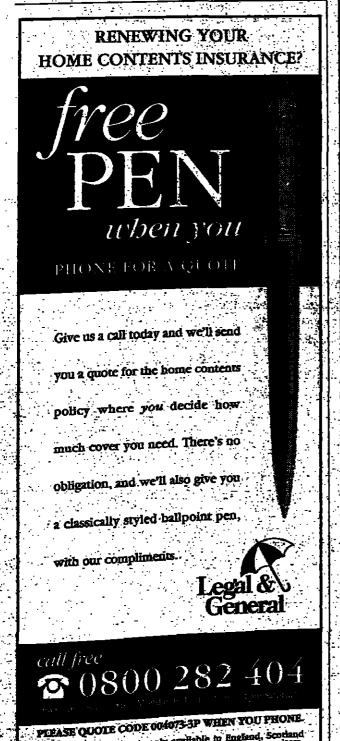
We are dedicated to the continuous improvement of our service to customers. Single-minded attention to the needs of customers will speed the restoration of high standards of service. Above all a safe, reliable and secure gas transportation system will continue to be maintained.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHAREHOLDERS?

There is a great deal of work to be done. It is unlikely to be before the Spring of 1997 that a decision to proceed can be taken and formal proposals put to shareholders.

Full details will be made available at that time and there is no need for any action at the moment. For more background ring the Shareholder line on 0345 003 006 which operates at the local call rate.

British Gas



Forbes's fortune leaves campaign rivals trailing

FROM MAKTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AS Louisiana Republicans prepared to east the first votes of America's 1905 presidential election last night, new figures revealed the breathlaking sums Steve Forbes is spending on his mayerick bid for the

In 1905 the publishing heir spent \$18 million (£11.5 million). Robert Dule \$20 million and Phil Gramm \$19 million - but then Mr Forbes did not enter the race until September. In the last three months of 1995. Mr Forbes spent \$14 million compared with Mr Dole's \$8.4 million, Mr Gramm's \$5.4 million, Lamar Alexander's \$3.5 million and Patrick Buchanan's \$3.2

Since the beginning of the

year. Mr Forbes's spending has actually accelerated and his total outlay must now exceed \$20 million. That is a staggering amount considering actual voting is only just beginning, but one that has propelled him into second

Congress exodus turns into a flood

By MARTIN FLETCHER

THE US Congress will suffer one of the biggest exoduses in its history this November as moderates of both parties are driven away by the increasing rancour on Capitol Hill.

On Monday, Virginia's L.F. Payne became the 39th member of the House of Representatives to announce that he would not be seeking reelection. Thirteen senators will be retiring, breaking the record of 11 set 100 years ago.

Congressmen have to spend more time fundraising in return for fewer perks. However, it was Congress's capture by a new breed of hardline Republican ideologues in 1994 that seems to have been the last straw. Most leavers are Democrats who hate being in opposition, but moderates of both parties say they are appalled at how basic civility has given way to invective and compromise has become a

The retiring members "share a common level of frustration over the absence of political accord and the increase in personal hostilities". William Cohen, one of the Republican senators who is leaving, said, "Those who seek compromise and consensus are depicted with scorn as a 'mushy middle', that is, weak those who plant their feet in the concrete of ideological

place in most polls.

Moreover, these figures from the Federal Election Commission understate the huge advantages Mr Forbes enjoys as a result of using a personal fortune of roughly \$440 million to finance his

Firstly, he has been able to drown out his Republican rivals messages. Nearly \$10 million of his \$14 million expenditure in the last quarter

remain in the race right up to the Republican nominating convention in August. He says he will "invest and spend whatever it takes to get my message of hope, growth and opportunity across to the voters", and could surpass the record of \$60 million which absolutism are heralded as Ross Perot spent on his indeheroic defenders of truth, juspendent candidacy in 1992. tice and the American way." Mr Forbes's rivals accuse

Mary McGrory, the liberal Washington Post columnist, him of trying to "buy" the Republican nomination, but wrote that "under News Gingvoters seem unconcerned. rich and his commando fresh-Many consider his wealth men, the usually raucous, but makes him incorruptible and beyond the reach of lobbyists. Mr Forbes also argues that often jolly. House has taken on the charms of downtown

of his rivals' was on

fundraising. He has spent

four times more on commer-

cials in lowa, scene of next

week's caucuses, than any

other candidate. The average

voter in New Hampshire.

which holds the first prima-

ries on February 20, now sees

Forbes advertisements 34

Secondly, Mr Forbes's spending has forced his rivals

to die deeper into their

warchests to remain competi-

tive. This virtually ensures the

swift departure of all candi-

dates who finish outside the

top three in Iowa and New

Hampshire. However, Mr Forbes is not

bound by any spending limits

funds, and he promises to

times a week.

Sarajevo — a war zone". all his spending would be The exodus, if anything, will futile if he did not have a powerful message. In 1980, John Connally, the former accelerate the polarisation of Congress. Those leaving the Senate include Sann Nunn of Texas Governor, spent \$12 Georgia, Bill Bradley of New million chasing the Republi-Jersey and Jim Exon of Necan nomination but won not a braska, all Democrats; and Mark Hatfield of Oregon. single primary. Mr Gramm, the Texas senator, has spent more than \$20 million but Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas. and Alan Simpson of Wvoremains stuck in single figures ming, who are Republicans. in the polls.

Mr Gramm had to win last All have been willing to cross party lines in order to night's Louisiana caucuses to reach compromises, but their maintain his credibility, but replacements will almost cerfaced a strong challenge from Mr Buchanan, the conservatainly be more liberal or more conservative. The same is true tive commentator. All other in the House. candidates besides Alan Keyes The Democrats have little boycotted the caucuses to aphope of recapturing the Sen-are, which the Republicans nease lowa voters furious that

Louisiana has violated their right to hold the first contest. control with 53 seats to 47. The Republicans must defend 19 of Mr Gramm had worked the 33 contested seats, but Louisiana hard from his base eight of the 13 retiring senators in Texas and the party heirarchy rigged the rules in are Democrats and the Republicans look certain to capture his favour. However, Mr Buthree of their seats. The Demochanan barnstormed through erats have more chance of the state in recent days. Both 435 seats are in play and they next week as the conservative need a net gain of 20. standard-bearer.





Elizabeth Taylor and Larry Fortensky, who met at a drug rehabilitation clinic. The building worker had an illustrious list of predecessors, including, from left, the film star Michael Wilding, Mike Todd who died in a plane crash, Eddie Fisher, Richard Burton who was married twice to the actress, and Senator John Warner

Elizabeth Taylor ends 'forever' marriage

FROM GILLS WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

IF HER past is any guide, she will be marrying again soon.
After eight weddings to seven men in 41 years. Elizabeth Taylor has filed for divorce from the man of whom she announced in 1991: 'This is it, for ever." Ms Taylor met Larry Fortensky, a building worker 20 years her junior, in a California drug rehabilitation clinic in 1988.

When they married five years ago at a "private" ceremony at Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch, helicopters laden with television cameras jostled for airspace and paparazzi hid in the bushes.

They separated last August and the divorce papers. filed at the California Superior differences". The actress's



Ms Taylor and Conrad Hilton, her first husband

lawyer. Neil Papiano, said she was still fond of Mr Fortensky and that the divorce would be swift, amica-Monday, cited "irreconcilable" to confirm whether there was a pre-nuptial agreement. but

such contracts have smoothed

her previous divorces. Ms Taylors's first marriage in 1950 was to Conrad Hilton. was IS. After less than a year she left him for Michael

Wilding, who was more than twice her age. In 1957, she married Mike Todd, who died when his plane crashed a year later. She was married once to the Hollywood lothario Eddie Fisher, once to Senator John Warner and twice to Richard Burton.

Of all Ms Taylor's matrimonial adventures, none was stranger than the one just ended. All the couple appeared to have in common was their choice of clinic - a Betty Ford centre near Palm Springs - and a dependence on painkillers.

Within months of their wedding, there were rumours of discord in Ms Taylor's Bel Air mansion, where she was struggling with arthritis that led to two hip replacement operations and Mr Fortensky television to his new wife's

Clinton to give evidence on video

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE White House vesterday sought to play down a subpoe-na for President Clinton to testify at a fraud trial in Arkansas as Republicans seized on the latest political embarrassment as further evidence of misconduct by the

Mr Clinton had been subpoenaed by a federal judge as a witness in the Little Rock trial of Susan McDougal and her husband, James, the Clintons" business partners in the failed Whitewater land venture, and their co-defendant and Arkansas Governor, Jim-Guy Tucker

Mrs McDougal, who claims the President's testimony is vital to her trial next month. has been accused of receiving a \$300,000 (£190,000) loan that David Hale, a former municipal judge, says Mr Clinton and others pressured

him to make to her in 1986. Mr Hale, the Government's star witness, has accused Mrs McDougal, her husband and Mr Clinton of taking part in a scheme to defraud the Small Business Administration of

The former judge, who last year pleaded guilty to an unrelated fraud, later made a plea bargain to testify in the

Mr Clinton has denied the allegations and agreed to testify next month. Lawyers for Mrs McDougal still hope the President will appear in person, but it seems certain he can satisfy the subpoena by offering either a videotaped deposition or live testimony by

satellite from Washington. The White House has been quick to argue that Mr Clinton is being called only as a character witness and precedent has shown other Presi-. dents have given testimony in testimony by a sitting President is rare. Ronald Reagan did so by videotape at the Iran-Contra trial, but the President

had left office by then.

Gerald Ford gave similar evidence at a trial of a woman who was convicted of trying to shoot him, while Jimmy Carter gave a videolaped deposition in a 1978 trial relating to the fugitive financier. Robert

The prospect of a personal appearance would place an enormous spotlight on Whitewater and related questions and could subject Mr by Kenneth Starr, the chief prosecutor.

Samper: under new pressure from US

Samper fights for political survival

FROM DIVID ADAMS IN BOGOTÁ

FACING allegations that he won the presidency of Colomhia with \$6 million (£4 millions in secret donations from drug lords, President Samner is fighting for political survival against increasing odds.

As Señor Samper's Government teeters near collapse. ommentators clamouring for the President's resignation are asking whether he can sur-vive. His electoral campaign manager and treasurer, once trusted friends, are under arrest and telling investigators about alleged financial misdeeds by the Liberal Party.

Moreover, Washington is threatening to cut financial aid to his Government and warning him that it will seek the extradition of jailed drug lords if they are not given harsh sentences.

A lawyer by training. Señor Samper insists he is innocent. While few believe such a large sum of money could have been received by his campaign without his knowledge, the

President seems confident that there is no firm evidence against bim. "There does not seem to be anything that really nails him." one diplomat said, "There is no cheaue with his name on it and no video of him with suitcases of money."

But Señor Samper may still be forced to resign. In 1994, his campaign spent \$12 million. three times the legal limit. Besides about So million in drug money, his party also allegedly received through fraud \$2 million from a public fund for election campaigns.

Despite the lack of proof linking Senor Samper to drug money, his role in electoral fraud and overspending may be easier to establish. In that case, experts say, he may be offered a more dignified exit resigning over minor misconduct and thus avoiding any criminal charges that might

land him in jail. If Senor Samper opts to fight all the charges against him, his biggest obstacle would be the United States.

Leading article, page 19

\$15m art disappears at airport

are a 1927 Picasso painting. Woman Seated With Skull in

Left Hand, a 1956 Picasso

social round.

New York: Three works of art worth an estimated \$15 mil-lion (£9.8 million) disappeared from New York's John F. Kennedy airport after an apparent gaffe by security guards (Quentin Letts writes).

The pictures, which include two pieces by Picasso, should liave been placed under spe-cial guard after they were held at the airport due to bureaucratic problems, instead, the outside contractors entrusted with their care allegedly treated them like a routine pack-

age. The three missing pieces

drawing called Portrait of a Woman Dedicated to Jacqueline and an 1897 painting. Paris Street by Pissarro. They arrived in New York last Thursday in the hand luggage of Avelino González, a

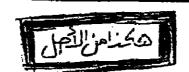
Mexican businessman and coowner of the art. He was intending to take them to New York auction houses for

Senor Gonzalez was told that he lacked the proper

paperwork and a "house broker to take them through customs. In exchange for a receipt, he surrendered them to officials for safeguarding in bonded holding area. Dynair, a company which transports goods to the hold-ing area, allegedly violated its own rules by failing to give the

paintings special protection.
When Senor Gonzalez returned to the airport the following morning to claim found. The FBI has been called in to investigate.





Germany's wooing of uneasy Russia unsettles nerves in Central Europe

HELMUT KOHL, the German Of ancellor, is preparing to meet President Yeltsin next week amid fears that Germany is slipping back into its historical role of explainer of, and occasional apologist for, a restless Russia.

The suspicions were fuelled by the tone of Herr Kohl's address to the annual Wehrkunde defence conference in Munich at the weekend. He talked of the need to understand the psychological vul-nerability of the Russians and hinted that the West should tread lightly with its plans to enrol Central European states in Nato. Coming from the West's chief

Roger Boves reports from Bonn on suspicions that Germany is slipping back into its role of occasional apologist for the Russians

comments had an unsettling effect on the Central Europeans and con-

fused Western participants. An interviewer this week for the Polish government daily Rzeczpospolita mirrored her country's anxious view of the changing relationship in a question to Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Min-ister, "After a frosty period because

bridge-builder with Russia, the of the Chechenia war. German-Russian relations seem to have become very close and friendly again - although all reformers have been excluded from the Moscow Government and despite the Russian Army trampling over human rights in Dagestan. Despite all this, you supported Rus-Europe. Is Russia being judged by

different standards?" The minister dodged the question; he emphasised that Germany had a parallel Ostpolitik to enlarge Nato and the European Union and simulta-neously to strike up a special relationship with Russia.

There is no doubt that all groups within Russia are opposed to Nato enlargement eastwards. Yet Nato retains this as one of its defining missions and Germany, of all the Western allies, has the most to gain from moving Nato's border from the River Neisse to the Bug.

There is no way of squaring the circle; one of the priorities has to give way. In the negotiations be-

fore the Kohl-Yelisin meeting, due. to begin on February 18, the Russians have come up with dif-ferent, mainly warmed-up, ideas. Nato, or individual Nato countries, could strike bilateral security agreements with Central European states, that, the Russians say, would be preferable to fully fledged membership. Or the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe - to which Western countries, the Central Europeans, the Ukrainians and Russians belong - could be given more muscle. None of this convinces Central Europe, nor has it -

But the emphasis now is on understanding Russian fears rather than on Swiftly accommodating the Central Europeans Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General, notably omitted any dates for Nato enlargement in Munich last weekend, vet emphasised the need for quick progress on developing a strategic partnership with Russia.

As President Yellsin became more erratic, the political friendship with Germany came under strain. But senior German diplomats, having studied carefully the recent utterances of his Communist rival Gennadi Zyaganov, persuaded the German leadership. seem to have come to the conclu-

presidential election would be marginally better for German-Russian relations. It is, however, a finely balanced calculation and talk of Nato enlargement is being muffled, at least until after the

Russian election in June. The critical question is how much Mr Yeltsio can be offered by Germany, on behalf of the West. Germany and Nato could never offer Russia a veto on alliance affairs. But a certain vagueness about Nato enlargement seems to be the order of the day.

Rifkind's boast of EU leadership mocked by Brittan

By Michael Binyon, diplomatic editor

MALCOLM Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, claimed yesterday that Britain would lead the way in Europe in strength-Paging relations with America and promoting transatlantic free trade. His claim was hotly disputed by Sir Leon Brittan. the European Commissioner responsible for European Union relations with America.

Mr Rifkind also said Britain was the "enterprise centre of Europe", and claimed that the British Government had forced the pace within the European Union on liberalising trade with America. Without Britain's efforts -"aided by Germany, Sir Leon Brittan and others" - the EU would not have won agreement at the Madrid summit in December to look at how remaining trade barriers

His speech comes as Brus-

THE Queen has invited Presi-

dent Chirac to pay a state visit to Britain just weeks before the

likely start of the inter-govern-

mental conference (IGC) on

the European Union's future

The timing of the visit, from May 14 till May 17, is signifi-

cant. Buckingham Palace, at

the prompting of the Govern-

ment, has invited him within a

year of taking office and only

months after he was given an

্রের্দ্বিusive welcome by John Ma-

jor at Chequers last October.

between London and Paris,

Bosnia, there is talk of a new

entente cordiale. President

With the close relations

(Michael Binyon writes).

London invites Chirac

sels has begun a counteroffensive against what it sees as British attempts to delay or derail European economic and monetary union (EMU). Mr Rifkind is seen as taking British policy further down the road to Euro-scepticism.

Sir Leon, who on Monday publicly derided any attempt to delay the proposed start of EMU in 1999, today mocks the Euro-sceptics, saying that a substantial advance in transatlantic relations has been achieved by the EU "with no help from the anti-European rub-thumpers in Westminster". Writing in The Times, he welcomes Mr Rifkind's speech, but notes that Britain alone could not have achieved this major step alone.

He says Britain is pushing at an open door in urging Europe to seek closer relations with America. The aims are

Chirac may also be invited to

address a meeting of the

There is little disguising

Britain's political interest in

such a visit. In the run-up to

the IGC, which will review the

Houses of Parliament.

on all negotiating issues.

attainable "provided that the Foreign Secretary's positive approach is not distorted by those wishing to misrepresent it as giving encouragement to Euro-sceptics who wish to detach Britain from Europe." Mr Rifkind, addressing the

Transatlantic Policy Network. said: "We must apply the transatlantic partnership to furthering our prosperity, just as we do for our security. Britain will be leading the way in this effort. As Europe's foremost proponent of free trade. Britain will be a champion of greater economic liberalisation across the Atlan-

His speech dwelt on the need for a new international framework to underpin the close economic relations between Europe and America. His remarks will, in them-

selves, raise no hackles in Brussels, where the Commission is committed to deepening its ties and dialogue with Washington. However, Britain's attempt to claim credit for the new initiative will irk both Sir Leon and the Spanish, who made a revitalised EU relationship with America a centrepiece of their

interviewed yesterday on his speech. Mr Rifkind told Maastricht treaty, the Government is anxious not to be isolated, and is making strenthe BBC it was a plea to Europe to turn its attention uous effort to forge alliances with European Union partoutwards. There is a process ners on issues where it shares of global liberalisation taking place, and our relations with An undeclared aim of policy North America are only part towards France is to wean of that process which also Paris from the federalist emultimately has to involve the brace of Germany and prevent Far East and other parts of the cemented by co-operation in a solid Franco-German front

Rifkind beware, page 18



Pierre Gobert, left, and Philippe Cezanne, discuss "Portrait of Madame Cezanne with loosened hair", by their great-grandfather, at the Tate

Great-grandsons give their impressions of Cézanne

in London this week as he arrived for the opening of an exhibition of his great-grand-father's work. Selling out fast, with thousands of people jamming the Tate's switchboard, the exhibition is expected to be more popular than the Picasso

display in London in 1994. Two of Cezanne's greatgrandsons are in town for the exhibition. which opens tomorrow. Neither M Cezanne nor his cousin. Pierre Gobert. 61, inherited any of the paintings but confess to sharing the artist's temperament. "Like

PHILIPPE Cezanne was feted stubborn," M Cezanne, who works as an art expert, said. "T explode just like Cezanne exploded. I bottle up annoying remarks that people have made until suddenly a little thing sets me off. Cezanne was like that. That is something of Cézanne that we have kept. We are all opinionated."

M Gobert has not inherited any of his great-grandfather's talent but sees some similarities in his work as an aeronautical engineer. "I have inherited in my work his perfectionism. Just like him, I do not like things to be badly my great-grandfather I am done - even if it is just By Leyla Linton

changing the taps in the Both men share Cezanne's introversion. "My great-grandfather went into painting like some go into religion," M Cezanne said. "He decided from the outset to be alone. solitary like a monk. wish. All. the family is shy."

M Cézanne says he knew he would never become a painter. At school, his art teachers would reproach him. "They would always say to me, 'If only your great-grandfather could see you. And that was a gallery in Paris with his hic to really know the artist and terrible." He now owns a mother when he saw a gallery near the Louvre. The watercolour which looked fa-

name of Cézanne, he admits, has helped him in his career, although it bothered him at first. "I wanted to be known for myself, but it was difficult"

There is now only one artist among the descendants of Cezanne, and she prefers not to be connected with the name : of the great painter, to ensure her own artistic freedom.

The cousins' grandparents sold all Cézanne's paintings and they had to wait for the exhibition to see some of them. miliar. She reminded him that it used to hang on the wall at home when he was a child

Those arxious to find out about Cézanne, the man, from his descendants will be disappointed 'M Cezanne said: "He was a very secretive man. It seemed normal that we had connections with Renoir's family and that they would come to the nouse. It was just . family history.

"One can only know him through his paintings and this to understand him through

Grain of scientific truth in tale of poisoned Tsarina

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

A MURDER mystery 400 years old may be solved by archaeologists who have disinterred the body of Anastasia, the queen of Ivan the Terrible, one of Russia's most bloodthirsty isars.

"We cannot rule out poisoning, was the verdict yesterday of a chemical expert. Natalya Voronova, who had examined Anastasia's body in her tomb in Archangel Cathedral, in the Kremlin. Ms Voronova said she had found large doses of mercury salts in the queen's hair. Hair preserves poisons longer than any other part of

the body and indicates how much the body has absorbed.

Tradition has it that the young Anastasia was poisoned by jealous rivals at court, who resented her influence. Born Anastasia Zakharina, she was Ivan IV's first wife and a love match who bore him six children. She came from a wealthy family, ancestors of the Romanov dynasty, but was considered by many courtiers to be an upstart not worthy of a tsar.

The Byzantine intrigues of the affair are known to millions of Russians through Sergei Eisenstein's film Ivan The Terrible. Political murder was a not uncommon way of settling scores in 16th-century Moscow and Ivan himself later stabbed and killed his favourite son in an argument.

It was the early death in 1561 of his beloved Anastasia, who was still in her twenties, that pushed Ivan, who had a reformist reputation in the early years of his reign, into the reign of terror that earned him his sobriquet "the Terrible" (in Russian, "the Cruel"). He married six more times and was eventually excommunicated by the Orthodox Church.

Anastasia's sarcophagus was opened during a dig in the Kremlin cathedral, the burying place of all the early tsars. The Kremlin is being gradually restored, allowing archaeologists unique opportunities to excavate the tombs.

Mercury saits could be procured from physicians in 16th-century Moscow, and although a court plotter may have slipped them into the queen's wine there may also be a more innocent explanation. Ms Voronova said. The salts were used in the distant past as a medicine for a range of diseases, including leprosy and syphilis, she said. Traces of mercury were also found in the remains of Ivan himself when they were examined in the 1960s, leading many historians to believe that he died of syphilis.



have died of syphilis

Bankers protest over Moscow killings

Moscow: An alliance of Russian businessmen and bankers announced yesterday it was drafting a protest letter to President Yeltsin after the murder of another Moscow banker, the latest victim in an epidemic of contract killings (Thomas de Waal writes).

Aleksei Butenko. 26, the first deputy chairman of Gradnvest Bank, was found on Monday in a car park with his throat cut and multiple knife wounds. He is the 33rd lead-

As the saying goes. You can't please all of the people all of the time. But given

that it costs five times as much to gain a new customer as it does to keep an

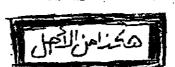
Aleksandr Orlov, executive director of the Round Table Of Russian Business, said that his organisation and several others were sending a letter calling on the authorities to take orgent action to defend businessmen from organised crime. We don't see any of our proposals being put into ac-tion", he said. "We keep on meeting to bury someone. It is terrible."



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ment territory on January 30

in Sarajevo on their way to a

The three others under in-

vestigation were identified as

Tese Tesic, Petar Todorovic

and Dusan Borovic, and were

said to have carried out mas-

sacres in the east Bosnian

towns of Zvornik. Vlasenica.

Alispahic said they were

arrested when their civilian

car was found carrying rifles, hand grenades and a substan-

tial amount of ammunition.

Officials from the Interna-

tional Committee of the Red

Cross requested permission to

visit the prisoners yesterday

but were denied access by the

Bosnian Government, accord-

ing to Anne Sophie Bonefeld,

the Red Cross spokeswoman. Nato officials said that the

arrests were likely to inflame

tensions around Sarajevo and

could jeopardise the fragile

peace process taking hold across the country. Brigadier Andrew Cumming, the Nato spokesman, said the arrests

were "provocative and

former warring sides around

Sarajevo, which officially

came under Bosnian govern-ment control on Sunday, have

been tense since the peace

process began. Thousands of

Serbs have been leaving the

region, fearing that the Bosni-

an Government would mete

out revenge when it took over

the area. The arrests are likely

to fan their fears and quicken

The war crimes tribunal, set

up by the United Nations and

headed by Richard Goldstone,

the chief prosecutor, has so far

charged 52 suspects with war

crimes linked to the Bosnian

War. Only one, a Bosnian

Serb, has been taken into

the exodus.

Relations between the two

Nato meeting.

Serb officers are questioned over war crimes claims

By Stacy Sullivan in sarajevo and Our Foreign Staff

WAR crimes investigators addition to General Djukic have been arrested on governfrom The Hague yesterday questioned three high-ranking Bosnian Serb military officers seized by the Bosnian Government in Sarajevo last week. and examined Bosnian de-mands that they should be indicted as war criminals.

The investigators, from the International War Crimes Trihunal for the former Yugoslavia, said it was far too early for any findings and they had still to question other men being held by the Government. Bakir Alispahic, the Bosni-

an Minister of the Interior. insisted, however, that the Government had evidence that the two senior Bosnian Serb officers, General Djordje Djukic and Colonel Aleksa Krsmanovic, "not only participated in killing civilians but also helped organise the killing of civilians".

The Bosnian Serbs, who had reported the disappearance of eight soldiers to Nato officials in Sarajevo, said they were breaking off relations with the Bosnian Government in retaliation for the arrests -a move that could have serious implications for the Dayton peace accord.

With tension over the seizures growing, Carl Bildt, the international mediator, urged Hasan Muratovic, the Bosnian Prime Minister, at a joint news conference in Davos. Switzerland, yesterday to clear up the highly charged issue "very quickly indeed".

Bosnian police captured the eight Bosnian Serb soldiers on three occasions between January 20 and February 2 in circumstances which are unclear but which Mr Alispahic described as "extensive traffic control checks".

The Government said it would release three of the eight, but claimed to have evidence that three others. in and Colonel Krsmanovic, had carried out massacres of civilians. A government spokes-man said all the evidence would be turned over to The Hague investigators, three of

whom are conducting inquiries in Sarajevo. Mr Alispahic refused to give details of the Mirza Hajric, the Bosnian

government spokesman, said the detainees would be released if the investigators determined that there was not enough evidence to prosecute them. "If The Hague says there is not enough evidence to prosecute them, we will reease them," he said.

General Djukic is a close associate of General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb army commander who has been indicted by the tribunal for alleged war crimes. General Djukic and Colonel Krsmanovic were believed to

Milosevic and Karadzic meet

PRESIDENT Milosevic of Serbia has recently met Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader who is wanted by the International War Crimes Tribunal. Dr Karadzic led a delegation to Dobanovci, an army coming for the lifting of the border blockade which Mr Milosevic imposed in 1994.

The aim of the meeting was ly" because Mr Milosevic is anxious not to jeopardise his high standing with the international community. "Everybody knew. It was reported, and yet British and European diplomats decided to turn a blind eye," a Belgrade

Jarnac seeks tips on crowd control

FROM BEN MACINTYRE

DURING his life, François Mitterrand would never have considered taking advice from arch-rival Charles de Gaulle, but in death he may benefit from the wisdom of those who care for the general's tomb and share a problem: tourists.

The tiny town of Jarnac in southwest France has been inundated with pilgrims since Mitterrand was buried there last month, while Colombey-les-Deux-Eglises, the hamlet in eastern France where de Gaulle was interred, has been a tourist attraction for 25

Maurice Voiron, the be-sieged Mayor of Jamac, is to visit Colombey next Saturday to see if his opposite number there has any tips on dealing with the crowds. About 140,000 people visit Colombey every year, but Jarnac (population: 4,000) has had more than 70,000 in four weeks.

The villagers of Jarnac see the influx as a mixed blessing. Shopkeepers are doing a roaring trade, and tourists can choose from a wealth of souvenirs, including plaster busts depicting Mitterrand. But parking and other facili-ties cannot cope with the tourists, visitors to the Mitterrand tomb have trampled neighbouring graves and the once empty streets are choked with traffic. Ten requests to build hotels have arrived, while dozens of artists and architects have offered to build a Mitterrand memorial to rival the giant stone Cross of Lorraine at Colombey.

In the days leading to the Mitterrand funeral, newspa-pers waxed lyrical about "the legendary tranquillity" of Jarnac. But that has vanished for ever. M Voiron says he needs to get away from the frantic bustle that has become village life. After the weekend, he is going on holiday to the Caribbean.



Antonio Ruiz Soler, who died this week, revolutionised male flamenco dancing

Lament for flamenco master

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

THE WORLD of flamenco was yesterday lamenting the loss of one of its greatest dancers, Antonio Ruiz Soler. Theatre in London. 74, who died in Madrid after

an illustrious career as El Gran Antonio. Antonio was the first amhatshib was the first am-bassador of flamenco, taking the duende — the soul and feeling for flamenco song, dance and guitar — around the world. Some of his greatest triumphs were at Camegie Hall in New York, La Scala in Milan and the Cambridge

Yesterday he lay in state in his dance studio as a host of fellow artists paid their respects. The dancer died at his home on Monday from a thrombosis. He had been virtually bedridden since suffering a stroke in 1994. Antonio had a colourful private life. His lovers allegedly included the Duke of Windsor, the Duchess of Alba and Ava

Gardner. "He was God in the flamenmenco, said yesterday She

pendent Post daily newspaper

in Lusaka yesterday while

fred Mmembe, Bright

Mwape and Masautso Phiri,

three senior executives, were

held on sedition charges

(Michael Hartnack writes).

was spread by Antonio. Ma-drid's flamenco dance studios are now full of Australians, Japanese and Americans

He revolutionised the male flamenco dance," she said. "He became the first man to use his arms, not just his feet, but he was also one of the few who was expert at everything
—the bolero, classical Spanish dance, regional dances and

Antonio started at dance school at the age of five in his native Seville, where he will be buried today. By the time he was seven, he was performing at the city's 1929 World Fair. co world," Elke Stolzenberg, a at the city's 1929 World Fair. German photographer of fia- He toured the world with his own company and was the hopefuls from around the in the Soviet Union. He world who came to Spain to danced at the wedding of King learn flamenco after its art Farouk of Egypt.

Zambia police blockade paper

Post and President Chiluba's

Government centres on dis-

closures about a planned ref-

erendum on constitutional

changes. The most controver-

sial alleged revision would

debar former President Ka-

Harare: Police surrounded The most serious in the long the offices of Zambia's inde-series of clashes between the

Socialist shot dead by Eta

Madrid: A founder-membe of the ruling Spanish Socialist Party and brother of a former Justice Minister was shot dead yesterday by suspected Eta terrorists in San Sebastian as violence mounted in the Basque region in the run up to the general election on March 3 (Edward Owen writes):

Fernando Mugica, 61 a lawyer, was shot twice in the back of the head by two from the provincial court in the Basque resort to the headquarters of the Basque Socialist Party. Senor Mugica was a

candidate in the election The terrorists escaped after the murder, the first by Eta this year, with 15 dead last

UN ordered to pay Briton

New York: The United Na tions has been ordered to 📥 compensation and make a public apology to a British man dismissed from its peacekeeping operation in Somalia after £2.6 million was stolen from the UN base in Mogadishu (James Bone writes).

Douglas Manson, 68, a Glaswegian now living Canada, said from his home in Unionville, Ontario, that he felt vindicated by the decision of an independent administrative tribunal.

Pandas ill from lack of bamboo

Peking: The 14 pandas at the 200 here are suffering from stomach-ache because their keepers are short of arrow bamboo, the animals staple food. They have substituted beef, eggs, milk and apples (James, Pringle writes). The zoo, facing a cash crisis, can-nor afford the price of bamboo which has soared since farmers are growing cash crops.

Rising damp

Ampus, France: A pensioner dug a well 110ff deep in his spring began to flow in his living room soon after at a rate of 250 gallons an hour. (AF

unda, 71, from attempting a

Post carrying the referendum plan was declared a banned

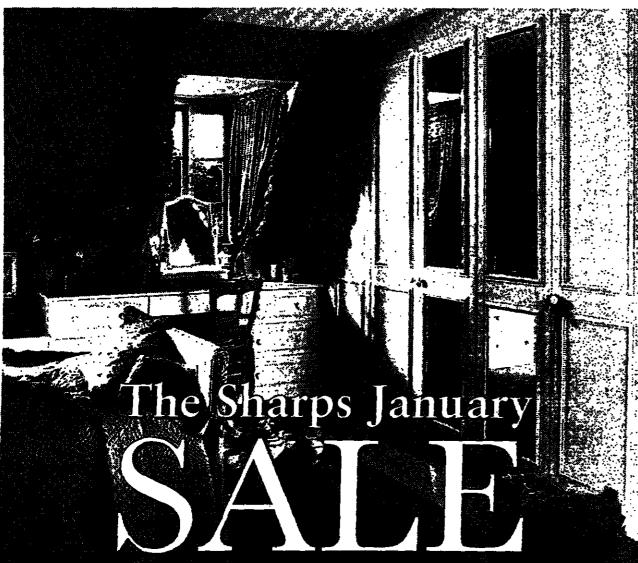
publication. Yesterday's edi-

tion carried large white

spaces with the words "cen-

Monday's edition of the

return to power.



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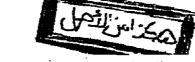


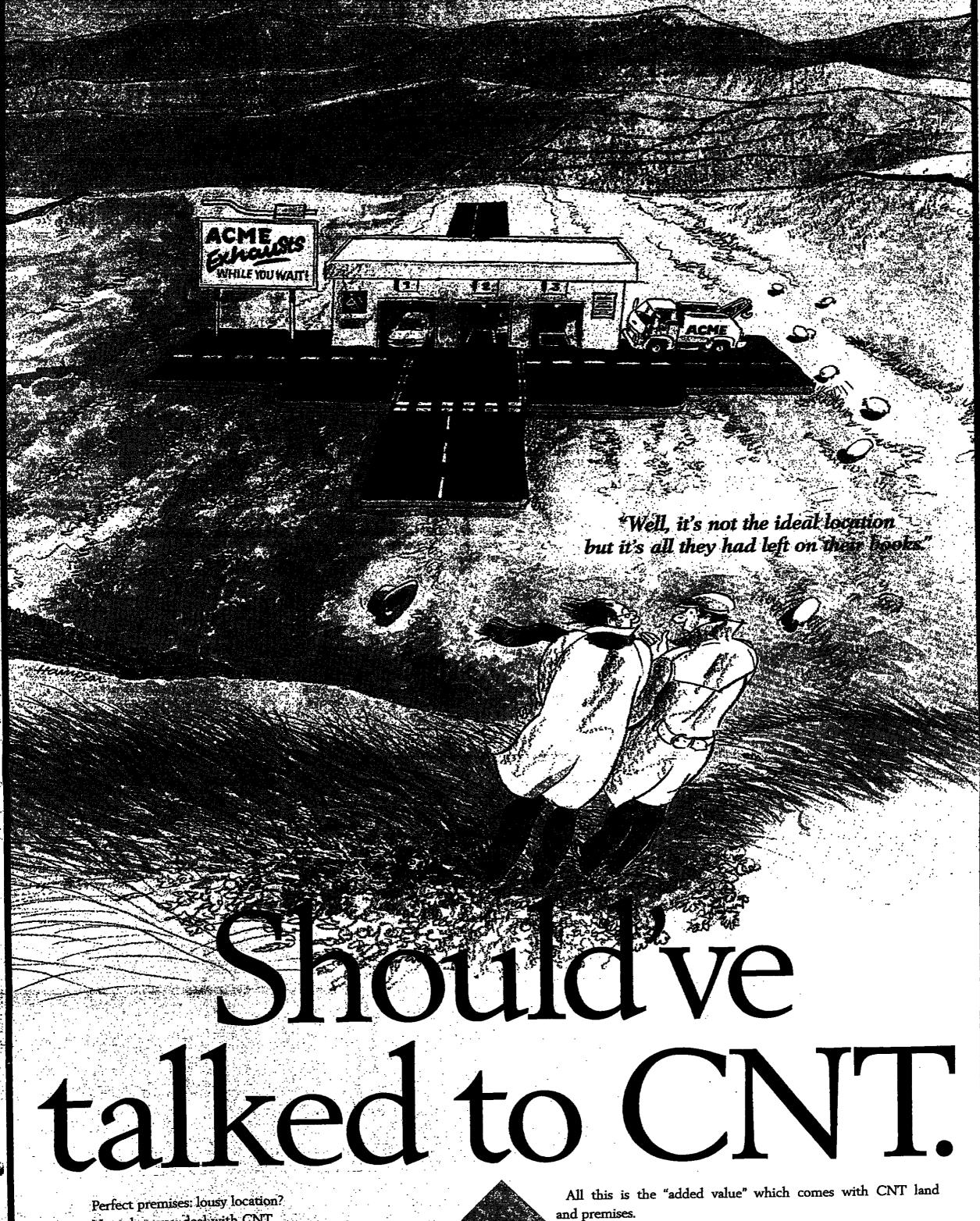
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Cool kids know what they want



Above: CASSIA CLARIKE, aged two, in a multicoloured patchwork dress and matching hat, £42.95, Florianne, Kids Universe, Selfridges (0171-629 1234). Far right: Cassia wears a red and white check dress, £13, Boots Children's Wear, selected branches (01159 495 581)



Above: DELILAH MAJSTOROVIC, aged six, in a cardigan, £15, leggings, £7, M&S (0171-935 4422); sunflower pumps, £10.99, Ravel (0171-631 0224); puffa jacket, £26.99, Next (0116-284 9424); hat, £69, Ninivah Khomo, 5 Beauchamp Place, SW3

Three mothers photograph their

children in this spring's looks

t used to be that parents would dread the day that their sons and daughters turned 13. Teenagers wanted to do their own thing. listen to loud music - well. they called it music - and hang out with their friends to all hours. Mostly, they wanted to choose their own clothes. But I have some bad news. Today, the under-fives know exactly what they will and will

not wear. The children's-wear industry has shown phenomenal growth in the past five years. Whereas previously the search for anything more adventurous than a tartan mini-kilt or a pair of denim dungarees would necessitate a trip to the Continent, there is now an endless choice of brands and labels to suit every occasion on every high street: from Naf-Nat and Oilily to Boots and French Connection. Selfridges on Oxford Street now has a huge department called Kids Universe, a Willy Wonkaesque wonderland which ca-

ters to a child's every desire. The annithesis of the formal velvet dresses and mini-blazers of the traditionalists, the wear is colourful and comfortable. The consensus of the children who modelled for our



fashion page was their desire to look "cool". This can describe anything from a padded puffa jacket to a handkerchief worn bandanna-style. Bright paintbox colours are

popular with both parents and latest styles feature snazzy patchwork fabrics and applique patches. Gingham is once again a favourite for younger babies' wear while older ages prefer the oversized street-style look of utilitarian parkas with lots of zips and pockets, and baggy combat trousers. The funky looks of today's pop and rap groups provide a template

for five-year-olds who can't even spell MN8.

Mothers tend to look for easy clothes which will wash and wear.

As proud parents are forever flashing happy snaps of their offspring. The Times asked three muns to become photographers for the day and snap their children in some of this spring's latest looks.



five, in a check coat, £124.30, khaki trousers, 955.55, Oilily (012254 45907). **Flight: Rory** wears a red cotton shirt, £28

Connection, 249 Regent St. W1 shoes, £42, Russell and Bromley, 64 Kings Road, branches



Cassia enjoyed dressing up and thought it was reat fun. The ittle dresses were very pretty rate. When ractical, easy-to tend to buy a lot of rather than

DELILAH

Delilah enjoye cardigan and puffa jacket. She different types of looks from traditional pretty dresses to casual sporty

Left: his mother, Florence Torrens, says: "Rory thought the clothes were cool and comfortable. He loves bright interested in what he wears. He has a uniform for school and looks forward to what he likes. I grow into. He also

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Alixe Kingston: "It is open season for others to insult you if you are educated, employed and decent"

Brown bread

Muesli

Time to own up to being middle-class

the birthday party of a friend, that there was one thing left in life for which a person can never be forgiven. Half of those present in the elegant drawing room filled with faded antiques were leen to appear effortlessly "at home" with the upper-class hostess, while the rest of the throng were happier to expose and in some cases exaggerate, their working-class roots, with strangulated accents, aggressive poses and overbearing opinions.

Somewhere in between these two extremes stood the unforgiven. A man called John and me. The only representatives, at least the only happily self-confessed representatives, of the much-maligned middle classes.

Conversation was a little stilted. I found myself on the fringe of a cosmopolitan grouping that included a man who had recently emerged from an open prison, a woman who had married a Muslim and converted to the faith and a chap who was a political refugee from some unpronounceable African state.

Everyone looked very intent as they described their various origins. Until, that is, someone asked

me where I was "from".

"Well, Surrey originally," I said.

"How simply terrible for you," said the hostess, repeating my reply, at the top of her high-patched voice, to the merriment of all the

"Actually," I said a little defensively, "it wasn't terrible at all. It was really rather idyllic — a secure childhood with lots of freedom and

countryside . . . ? "Green-belt rather than greenwellie," sneered a member of the smart set.

John, whose upbringing in Hertfordshire was marginally less amusing, was the only person who seemed to have shared what the others scoffingly dismissed as a "Just William, Acacia Avenue" childhood.

At a pre-Christmas publishing party a few weeks earlier I had been subjected to a similar display of comic disdain.

The star guest that night was a very charming (as it turned out) shaven-headed "working-class" writer who had just published a rapturously reviewed novel written entirely in his own brand of provincial patois. The head of the publishing house wore him like a

Are the mocked and beleaguered people of suburban Middle England about to hit back? Jane Gordon defends a world of good sense and traditional values



Sharing and caring: the traditional family can hold up its head again

red ribbon on her lapel the whole evening, and at some point during the evening somebody introduced him to me.

"Should I know you?" he said. "Oh no," said a man from the publishing house, "she's middle market - more Blyton than

Middle-class people, I have sub-sequently decided, are not expected to think, or worry or create in the way that the eccentric upper classes or the tortured working classes do. We are not supposed to have any sort of sensitivity, compassion, instinct or insight into the human condition. Rather, we are condemned as repressed, suburban, unimaginative and outmoded.

On the way home from the party I made mental notes about the way in which the rest of society views the middle classes. And gradually began to realise that the so-called moral decline that everyone is always bemoaning could be directly linked to the unfashionability of middle-class life, values and aspirations.

Driving my Volvo down the middle of the road towards home, I was struck by how all those things that have become part of the eternal parody of our class have, in fact, much more worth than anyone will acknowledge. Oh, I know that the Volvo is not an exciting vehicle, I know that supposedly no one ever made love in the back of one, but the marvellous thing about the car I drive is that it has a unique safety factor - its middle-class driver that renders it beyond the interest of the casual car thief, joyrider or, for that matter, the policeman.

lhen I began to make a list of the other middle-class icons that were generally ridiculed by the rest of the population but which were sound and sensible innovations - Laura Ashley, Scholl sandals, cardigans, Viyella shirts, Teasmades, hostess trolleys, garden centres and The Archers — to identify but a few.

I quickly realised that however much other people might howl with laughter at these symbols of middle-class life, they had about them an inherent value or practicality that was missing from the rest of our harsh, modern, anti-middleclass world. Traditionally thrifty and careful with money, the middle classes are responsible for many of what might be called consumer endurables - things that pass the

way, we are not pioneers leading the way to exotic things such as the Dordogne, dishwashers, Delia Smith and dyslexia, Indeed, so much that was once foreign might still be if the middle classes hadn't discovered them - Montessoris, muesli, pasta, parmesan, woks, Bulgarian cabernet sauvignon and sun-dried tomatoes.

Moreover, all of our society's most responsible, caring and considerate innovations and in entions are middle-class. Who would worry about scooping poop, the National Trust, meals on wheels. Poppy Day, bottle banks, school league tables or saving the whale if the middle classes didn't?

Almost everything that is dismissively labelled middle-class has, in its way, improved the quality of life a great deal more than anything created by or for any

other sector of the population. What have the upper classes contributed to our society — apart from blood sports and the ideal example of the dysfunctional family offered by the Windsors? What have the working classes given us — apart from pit-bull terriers. ghetto-blasters and the replacement of the once crisp Celia Johnson BBC accent with a media dominated by Estuary English?

But the time is right for a middle-class revival. People are beginning to realise the value of the things that have always preoccupied the family, sound education, marriage, security, responsibility, good health and good manners.

In fact there are signs that as we move into the next century the middle classes might become fashionable again. Already market analysts have noted that the trend in the late Nineties will be towards what they now term "defensive spending", rather than the "profligate spending" that has dominated the past three decades.

Why, there is even a middle-class youth cult emerging — "easy listen-ing" — where the young go to clubs that play Burt Bacharach records wearing cardigans, cravats and stay-pressed trousers.

Very soon it may be safe for those of us who are middle-class to stand up with pride without facing a barrage of abuse. With Tony Blair on our side we might, perhaps, be able to convince the world we are a moral majority and not, as it feels right now, a moral minority.

Acupuncture PMT Garden centres Tony Blair Natural childbirth Damon Albam The ozone layer Herbal teas Marinite soldiers ME . Cling-film Yoghurt BBC2 Lego Mineral water John Osborne Harriet Harman Tuscany Vivienne Westwood Radio 4 Breast feeding Skimmed milk Church of England Dualit toasters Food allergies The National Trust

Bulimia

The poop scoop
The bottle bank

Neighbourhood Watch

A word from the front line

The piano The horse

SIMON CRESSWELL, 35, a partner in the estate agency Finlay Brewer: "I think one of the reasons why no one ever hears the voice of the middle classes is that we were all brought up not to shout. We were raised to behave well, to be nice, to do unto others as we would be done by. We are too well mannered to stand up and say what we might really think and mean about other sectors of society.

"There is a selfishness about the upper classes and the working classes that is missing from those of us who live in the middle

And our fear of offending others has

made us a bit of a joke.

It's been said before, but I do think that it is true that the middle classes are the real workers. We have been raised to believe that hard work, that real endeavour, will pay off. We work to targets set by our mothers and fathers. We just get on with it, quietly achieving because we work hard and

believe in things like responsibility and security.

But no one, and certainly not the Conservative Government, seems to recognise this fact. It's ironic, but maybe we need a Labour government to give us back our worth and self-respect. Perhaps Tony Blair will start to shout for the middle classes."

LIV O'HANLON, 40, mother of two, who lives in a gentrified square in south London: "I am bourgeois on both sides, and probably slightly ashamed to admit it. I live in what I suppose you might call a middle-class enclave in Lambeth.

in the centre of our square is a garden. the upkeep of which is paid by the freeholders here. But, of course, we don't use it because the people from the high-rise blocks down the road exercise their in it their rottweilers and disations — and we can't let our children. play there because they might be savaged or contaminated by dog faces. In fact, the chap who was the keyholder was so troken who was the keyholder was so troken who was the keyholder was so frightened by the responsibility - and

Ambition, hard work, responsibility — and fear. The life of the middle classes in England today



Hostess trolley: middle-class icon

the way in which the dog-walkers abused

him — that he threw away the key.

"We daren't say anything because the yobbos with their cans of lager would send their dog Tyson to rip out our throats. In a sense, I suppose you could call us the oppressed middle classes of Lambeth because, when a neighbour of mine recently applied for planning permission for a tiny extension to his house, he was refused by the council on the ground that his house was quite big enough already.

"Meanwhile, the properties owned by the housing associations are allowed to do whatever they want. When my friend questioned his refusal, he was asked why he wanted to live here and was told that Lambeth didn't want the middle classes. Even though, of course, we're probably

Mick Jagger

the only residents who pay their rates.

Most of us here are liberal middleclass, and we have got to the stage where we would shudder to say boo to a burglar for fear of not understanding his

ALIXE KINGSTON, 4l, mother of two who lives in a leafy suburb of Twickenham: There is a stigma in society about being middle class. In the current climate of political correctness you cannot say anything derogatory about any group of the population apart from the

middle classes. We are sneered at and despised for being sensible and honourable and responsible. We are looked down upon because we live in the suburbs and don't read The Guardian. And while I accept that there was a time when the middle classes were repressed emotionally. I don't think that is true now. We do show our emotions, we do pay our taxes, we do care and we do take responsibility for ourselves and our families.

There has never been a middle-class serial killer, middle-class children are not generally on 'at-risk' registers, middleclass people don't as a rule behave in a way that offends or disturbs others. Yet it is open season for others to insult you if

you are educated, employed and decent.
"We are the only people still flogging
on, still saying to our children you have got to work hard if you want to get on', even though we have a nagging doubt that perhaps it isn't worth it.

"The middle classes are the glue that holds society together. There isn't a true democracy in the world that doesn't have a large middle class. Without the middle classes you have a dictatorship. Yet no one seems to appreciate that it is the middle classes that are funding the whole show. I think we are about to see a backlash, a middle-class uprising."

ls someone poaching your nest egg

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A house devolved against itself

Lord Mackay of Clashfern on

why he rejects Edinburgh rule

There is no shortage of people proposing what they believe to be perfectly-formed means for constitutional change. But those would-be reformers wrongly assume that our present arrangements are inadequate. and ends of our constitution could lead to lasting harm.

Of course, there is no human institution which could not be made better. But it is false logic to argue that any change must therefore be an improvement. First, it is necessary to see the value of what we have. Central to what we have is the Union, developed over a long and important period of our history.

For me, as a Scot, the value of our Union is beyond price. It is the means through which all the citizens of the United Kingdom can live together in unity and diversity. Our diversity is not in doubt. The Union consists of nations of very different sizes. It accommodates two distinct systems of law. three of education, two established churches, different languages, and many distinctive traditions. Its unity is our strength. Under the Union we have built common institutions which reconcile order

with liberty under difference and common citizenship. I feel no less a Scot for having the privilege of being Lord Chancellor of Great

To "sleepwalk into separatism"

all - not only the Scots. I look at proposals on devolution and ask four questions: What are the constitutional ends that should be served? What would devolution offer me, as a Scot? What would be its practical consequences? And is there a

better way? First, the end must be to ensure that power is exercised as close as possible to the people. Civil society works when it has institutions with which people have an historic affinity, which are close to them and through which they know they can exercise power. a vigorous society in which citizens do more than pay their taxes and then abdicate. Despite all the criticism. I believe the House of Commons serves our people well, and that we should cherish the direct relationship between constituents

Devolution would interpose a new layer of politicians between the people of Scotland and their MPs at Westminster. Yet Parliament would continue to have responsibility for what is vital for the United Kingdom - its economic position, its foreign affairs and defence, it would also retain responsibility for the distribution of the proceeds of the Union Exchequer between the parts of Britain. In short. Westminster would remain the centre of power. The proposed parliament in Edinburgh would be just a sop. If you doubt this, ask the senior members of the Labour Party who propose devolution how many of them would wish to serve in Edinburgh rather Would devolution increase

Would it change Scotland's distinctive legal or educational system for the better? No.

What then of the practical consequences of devolution? What the Scottish convention proposes is a separate, singlechamber parliament with taxraising powers, able to legislate on virtually everything except what is really important for the United Kingdom. This raises three huge practi-

First, the West Lothian quesion — so-called because it was first asked by Tam Dalyell, the West Lothian MP - about the role of Scottish Members at Westminster if there were a separate Scottish parliament. If English and Welsh MPs had no say in exclusively Scottish matters, why should Scottish

English or Welsh matters? Some constitutional radicals pretend to solve the West Lothian question simply by ignoring it. The Opposition, esty, recognises that the question exists, and seeks to answer it by proposing English regional assemblies. This only equates Scotland with an English region. But in any

event, the proposal for regional assemblies is a plant without roots. Scotland is Are the Union and its institutions to be equated sacrificed for an unconsidered, unwanwith an ted patchwork of federalism? So the English West Lothian ques-

region

What of a Scottish parliament's tax-raising powers? Some argue that these need not be exercised. Then why propose them? To increase taxes uniquely in Scotland would, I believe, be profoundly bad for Scotland. But in the unlikely event of the powers being used to lower taxes, constitutional as well as economic issues would arise. Government expenditure in Scotland is nearly one-third higher per capita than that of England. How long would English MPs continue to vote more money to Scotland than to their own constituents, only to see it used to fund tax cuts north of the border?

A parliament would soon be in permanent confrontation with Westminster. Break-up of the United Kingdom would then be but a step away. The devolutionists suggest that disputes would be resolved by judicial or appellate committees. Better, surely, to avoid creating the disputes in the first place. From my position in the judiciary, I doubt whether this would bring government closer to the people, or make it more responsive. A field day for the lawyers would be a bad day for representative democracy.

tax-raising Scottish

Our living constitution may look untidy, but like the Wynds in the old parts of Scotland's towns it is homely. it is ours, and it has grown through our hir ory. It may need some repair and renovation, but how much finer and closer to us it is than the soulless constitutional tower blocks with which the radical reformers would replace it.



Half a league backward

hy is the Government stopping at primary school league tables? ther? A good teacher should not be tarred by the performance of a bad school, or a bright child be lumped in with dunces. There should be national league tables of teachers, of children, even of parents. Gillian Shephard and her schools inspector, Chris Woodhead, are missing a trick. They could prove conclusively that the middle classes are top, that exams "work", that smart schools do best, that the poor are dumb and getting dumber. Why not? There might be

votes in it. I leafed through yesterday's an-nouncement on school standards, full of the platitudes and factoids beloved of the modern audit. Mr Woodhead has found that the teaching of 11 to 14year-olds is "disturbingly weak". Schools are subject to "unacceptably wide variations". One in five lessons is of "poor quality". Shortage of books and equipment is affecting a "disturbing proportion" of primary schools. Standards need to rise in half of secondaries. Mr Woodhead's team have counted (but not named) 15.000 teachers who should be sacked, of whom a neat 7,500 are in secondary schools.

This is useless information. It is gibberish, bumpf. make-work for bureaucrats. Such an approach to education policy reminds me of the fate of a friend whose enterprise went bankrupt with a dozen poorly paid, poorly qualified staff. His demise was attended by two brilliant accountants, a brilliant solicitor, a brilliant bank manager and a brilliant civil servant. All gathered with their fees around his grave and tur-tutted at his failure. All were secure in their professions and would not dream of risking themselves at his coalface. In Britain there are clever people aplenty to monitor, inspect, criticise those doing really hard jobs — but never to

When the Inner London Education Authority was abolished in 1988, it was criticised by the Government because 20 per cent of its teachers were doing advisory work outside the classroom. As in all bureaucratised services, professionals had fled the front line. Mrs Shephard is imitating the ILEA. She has officials drawing up behaviour codes for teachers. moral and spiritual codes for teachers, dress codes for teachers, assessEducation rankings are a pretence, not

an honest way to improve teaching

ments, examinations, tests and league tables for teachers, in 1990, Her Majesty's inspectors cost the taxpayer £4.8 million. After five years of scrutinising what they claim to be declining standards, they now cost III million. Wheelbarrows are needed to cart their paperwork into the nation's schoolrooms. They recently sent 25,000 schools a 23-item survey featuring such questions as "What are the similarities and differences between social and moral development?" Small wonder they had just six replies. Schools were 100 busy

trying to teach. I am sure the professional audit has its uses. I like to know that my doctor, lawyer, accountant or bank manager has qualifications, operates and is up-to-date in his or her know-

ledge. I take residual comfort from the deterrent value of sult is equally unhelpful to individual negligence law. With schools there is schools. It is like the Board of Trade little such reassurance, and teachers' associations have never bothered themselves with professional standards. Teachers are not "struck off" by their peers. Too rarely are they sacked by their employers. Hence the

need for an inspectorate. Yet an audit should convey meaning. Parents need to know what is going on inside a school, and that it lives up to some professional standard. In cities, where parental choice is feasible, some means of comparing adjacent schools helps both choice and monitoring, especially where there is no good reason for a wide variation in performance. To be known as the worst school in town might lead governors and the local authority to take remedial action. devastating though it must be to the

morale of staff, parents and children. All of this is to be overwhelmed by a national league table. Such tables may be of use in the case of private boarding schools. For local day schools they are mere Whitehall games. They cannot compare like with like, or measure a school's real achievement in responding to the challenge of its neighbourhood. They are an institutional beauty parade, reducing education to the level of a Eurovision Song Contest.

The Woodhead/Shephard thesis is that a bad professional - in this case a head teacher - is best improved by being publicly humiliated. A recent report by the Royal Statistical Society dismissed such league table compari-sons as meaningless. Researchers pointed out that few schools have enough pupils for annual data to be reliably comparable. A flu epidemic can alter a national ranking by a hundred places. Primary schools are even smaller institutions. I cannot

believe a reputable statistician would go near an attempt national

As for yesterday's gloomy generalisa-tions about national standards, the re-

announcing that 40 per cent of British companies "could do better" or that one in five is "disturbingly weak". A measure of the quality of this exercise is the unsurprising discovery by the inspectors that twothirds of schools measured as "outstanding" have a selective intake at 11. As a piece of social science, this ranks with discovering that threestar restaurants serve remarkably good food or that the rich have lots

rofessional league tables are now sprawling across the public sector. They have crept into hospital waitinglists, child mortality figures, crime records, police clear-up rates, 999-call response times, university research output, courtroom efficiency and Royal Family engagements. They arise from a legitimate search for value for money, but rely only on "value" that can be calibrated. Such old-fashioned professional inputs as trust, care, reassurance, time spent listening and the creation of confidence are not measurable. Nor is

such a result as a healthy, alert or

table culture, only what is measur-

This is government by excoriation. suppose the pillory had its uses in the Middle Ages, as had the ducking-stool. Not many drowned. During China's Cultural Revolution, any teacher who deviated from a national norm was forced to wear a dunce cap and stand penitant in a public place. Students of the Great Terror know that a proletariat likes nothing so much as a profession in a state of ridicule. To politicians, the nomination of the "best and worst schools in Britain" is the least-cost way of appearing to be doing something.

If the Government response were

to devote money and care to helping the "worst", there might be a justification for this crudity. But the whole drift of yesterday's announcement was that the quality of a school depends solely on good teaching as assessed in government tests. Thus Crofton Junior School in Orpington was said to excel - almost twice the national average score at Eng-- because of the organisation of its teaching. This is the latest orthodoxy. Everybody can see that Crofton excels principally because it is middle-class, all-white and in Orpington, not Southwark. But no-

body dares say so.
I am mystified at what purpose is served by the new political cor-recmess. League tables are about rewarding success and punishing failure, but the concept of success and failure that they inculcate is naïve. To all criticism of league tables, Mrs Shephard and her officials reply not that they are valid but that they are "popular". So is the Eurovision contest. True, tables get easy coverage. Readers enjoy marvelling at success and gloating over failure. But such pulp faction is not usually part of the public service mission. We ex-

pect policy to be directed at improv-ing the quality of a service overall.

If subsidy is needed, it should be directed especially at families least able to help themselves. But I cannot imagine a more crass way of crushing their self-esteem and that of their children than a national league table of primary schools. Perhaps the poor have had their day. But the Tory party's contempt for their future schooling must be reckless. As a victim said of J.B. Priestley's famous inspector, "I remember how he looked and what he made me feel: fire and blood and anguish."

Rifkind should beware.

Don't pander to the

sceptics, says

Sir Leon Brittan

ast year there was an increasing realisation on both sides of Ithe Atlantic that the relationship between Europe and the United States remained the most important relationship for each party, but that recent developments, such as the end of the Cold War and the successful Gatt negotiation, made its modernisation essential.

As European Commissioner in charge of relations with America, I put to the Commission and the Council of Ministers last summer a proposal that the EU and the US should launch a major initiative to strengthen ties in a whole range of policies. This was warmly welcomed by the Americans, and after months of negotiation the initiative was crowned in Madrid last December. when President Clinton joined the

EU in signing the blueprint for this new relationship.

Throughout the process, the Commission worked closely with the Spanish presidency and was bol-stered by valuable support from Britain, Germany and others who seed transatlantic ties as vital to their national interests. The Commission is now pressing ahead with a similar initiative towards Canada.

There can be few European policies which dovetail so neatly with British interests. Most significantly of all, the initiative has kept alive the flame of freer trade across the Atlantic which is very dear to Britain. It does not create a full free trade area, but if, after a joint study by the Commission and the American Government, it is deemed politically, economically and legally feasible to cut all tariffs, a free trade area could ultimately result.

💙 o far so good. A substantial advance in transatlantic relations, one of Britain's major foreign policy objectives, has been achieved by the European Union with no help from the anti-European tub-thumpers in Westminster, but with great support from the British Government. It has been achieved by making friends and influencing people in Europe. That is proof, if proof were needed, that a positive affitude to Europe pays far more dividends than the penny-wise and pound-foolish approach of defending national sovereignty" at all costs.

Britain ornits own could not have

achieved this major step. But by joining with EU partners who share Britain's priorities, effective action was possible. This illustrates the point made by Raymond Seitz, former American Ambassador in London, that Britain can maximise in-influence on America by working through Europe. The realistic choice for Britain is not between America and Europe. It is, rather, between seeming semi-detached from and hostile to Europe - as the Eurosceptics wish - and being positive towards Europe and therefore influential in strengthening the transarlantic relationship. If Britain wants to go further, as the Foreign Secretary's most welcome speech yesterday sug-gests, it must persuade its EU partners that free trade with America is in their interest too. The Euro-American initiative proposed by Brussels and backed by all 15 EU countries shows that in advocating closer relations Britain is pushing at a door already two thirds open.

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That door will open wider only if others feel that Britain wants to strengthen rather than dilute Europe by removing more barriers to trade with America. In my view, persuading them of this is perfectly possible, provided that the Foreign Secretary's positive approach is not distorted by those wishing to misrepresent it as giving encouragement to Euro-sceptics who wish to detach Britain from Europe. These objectives can be achieved only through Europe.

The same applies to the removal of economic barriers world-wide. Europe as a which negotiating as a single unit, has opened far more world markets than any one country could have done on its own, as even the most blinkered sceptic would be hard pushed to deny. The biggest bonfire of trade barriers that the world has ever known was ignited by Brussels through Gatt, with the support of Britain and other countries. Those who had blocked the deal in the past were won over because the advocates of free trade convinced them that Europe would be stronger in the world as a result. And hard though it is for Euro-sceptics to swallow, the European Commission was the

toughest advocate of them all. The British people are told by much of the media to see every policy emanating from across the Channel as threatening our right to govern ourselves, not as a chance to boost our influence. The development of Europe's relationship with America shows how untrue this is.

This Government must show that such fears are unfounded, and must highlight the benefits of EU membership. It has chosen to do so in its reaction to the new era in Euro-American relations, and wisely so, it must apply the same approach elsewhere. weighing up every issue in the hall ance of British interests, rather than heeding those who cry "Save our sov ereignty whenever anything come from Brussels, however much it may be in Britain's and Europe's interest

Don't call us

listening: a hoaxer has been trying to bump off Radio 2's disc jockeys. The individual, who clearly harbours a hizarre vendetta against

certain celebrity voices, has caused

panic by spreading rumours that presenters have expired. Three times recently the man has set up an elaborate web of lies to persuade newspapers and TV companies that a particular presenter has died. Radio 2, with a line-up that includes Terry Wogan. Jimmy Young, and the linguistically-challenged Derek Jameson.

the targeted broadcasters. The caller's tactics vary, but this week he rang a newspaper and pretended to be an agent, offering obituary details and bursting into

refuses to confirm the identity of

tears for extra effect. "The hoaxer seems to have a very detailed knowledge of how news organisations work," says a BBC spokesman. "He seems to be very calculated in causing as much distress as possible. It is very chilling. This is not a joke. It is the act of a very sick individual."

 Kenneth Clarke and Peter Lilley gave simultaneous speeches at the in return for building the bridge.

London School of Economics yes-terday. The Social Security Secretary, who was pelted with flour and eggs on his last visit, gave a wellpublicised talk to the Conservative Association and was heckled on his way in. The Chancellor's address to the Centre for Economic Performance, however, was private and discreet and he was untroubled. "I call the Social Security Secretary my human shield." said Clarke cheerfully.

Ure mistake

THE MISERY continues for Yorkshire Water. Now they are running scared of the Devil. Richmondshire District Council has ordered them to pull down a bridge over the River Ure in Wensleydale built as part of plans to extract water. The official reason is that planning permission had not been sought. However, locals claim the council is heeding their warnings about disturbing Beelzebub. According to folklore. bridges over the river failed to stay up until the devil agreed a pact with villagers in the 12th century. He ate a farmer's dog



"He left one stone missing, saying that if ever it should be completed he would eat the locals." says Jacqueline Wells, a parish councillor. "We told Yorkshire Water that if they ever completed their bridge the wrath of the Devil would be unleashed. Now they are removing it."

All change

A CERTAIN amount of regrouping among the cast of the rugby show The Changing Room which kicks off in the West End tonight. One of the stars. David Michaels. who was to play the part of the full back, was being operated on yesterday for a broken leg. He had picked up the injury while playing

The incident occurred when Michaels turned out for the National

Theatre's side. Teatro Nazionale. in a Sunday league match. "The chap who was playing the reserve has been brought in to shore up the side at fullback and the understudy

Exit, Paxo

JEREMY PAXMAN made an early departure from the Oldie of the ear lunch yesterday in London. It was a pity, really, for the Wannabe



Mrs Merton: golden oldie

Oldie of the Year award went to Caroline Hook, more commonly known as the northern housewife with a perm, the television chat-show host and recent Times columnist Mrs Merton.

As Ned Sherrin introduced the Merton faux naif interviewing style he explained that it was not abrasive: "No Paxman assault from her." Nevertheless, her technique is not something that Paxo appreciates himself — last year he refused an invitation to appear on her show.

· Cedric Brown was curiously camera-shy yesterday. After his news conference, from which TV cameras were banned, he rushed to hide in a side room, before being coaxed out for undignified interrogation in a corridor.

Wicket maiden

THE troubled cricket World Cup may survive until its opening ceremony in Calcutta on Sunday but now even that event is the subject of controversy. Local politicians are bowling bouncers at the ceremony organisers over plans for what they argue is a suggestive

strip-show. Sushmita Sen. a former Miss Universe and a heroine in the city. is scheduled to appear wearing . .

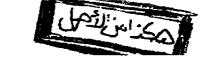


Sushmita: no flagging

scarf-sized national flags of the 12 participating countries, which she will then peel off and hand to team captains.

Protestations from organisers that she will be decent underneath have fallen on deaf ears. What is planned is totally vulgar," said Samar Chakraborty. a Congress leader in Calcutta. Police expect ex-cited crowds. The World Cup has enough problems and we don't want another controversy," says a

senior officer.





GREAT SCOTT

Prepare for a blinding blizzard of claim and counter-claim

Today or tomorrow, an enormous tome will thud onto selected ministers' desks. Two years late, the report by Sir Richard Scott into government policy on arms sales to Iraq is finally complete. The coming days will become dominated by the release of the Scott report, by selective leaks, alleged leaks and strategies for defence, attack and survival.

Readers may be forgiven if they have forgotten what it is about and why it is important. In a sentence, ministers stand accused of misleading Parliament about the sale of military equipment to Iraq and of trying to keep secret evidence that would have prevented directors of the Matrix Churchill company being unjustly sent to jail. The issue is not the rightness or wrongness of government export policy, but the uses and abuses of official secrecy. The charge against the Government is that in the name of the public interest, it resorted to measures aimed at avoiding political embarrassment.

Politicians are gripped by how they can control the consequences of this inquiry. Top of John Major's priorities is the avoidance of a ministerial resignation. Stung by Tony Blair's recent accusation that he buckles under pressure, he will do all in his power to keep the two most vulnerable ministers. William Waldegrave and Sir Nicholas Lyell, in their posts. If he manages to do so, he hopes he will be judged as vindicated by Sir Richard. If he does not, Labour will jubilantly claim its own victory.

To this end, the Government seems prepared to use every power at its disposal. One of these is the ability to control the report's publication schedule. For those politicians whose careers are on the line, the defence strategy can begin in earnest tomorrow. For other parties to the issue, lawyers, the unjustly accused and the pressure groups for civil liberties, the wait will be longer. Ministers will have a languid week in which to reflect upon Scott's findings and prepare their soundbites. They have allowed no such luxury to anyone else.

Journalists and opposition MPs will have, instead, a scant hour or two late on February 15 to digest a 2,000-page document and pass

Not so very long ago the problems pages of magazines targeted at teenage girls offered

advice on acne creams and that first kiss.

Now they are more likely to discuss contra-

ceptive pills and that first night. The Tory

MP Peter Luff tried yesterday to limit the

access of adolescents to explicit material in

magazines by introducing a ten-minute rule

Bill in the Commons, It is unlikely that the

Bill will pass into law, and even less likely

that legislation would achieve his aims, but

Mr Luff's ten minutes have not been in vain.

Exploiting adolescent sexuality for money is

an ugly business and it needs to be fought.

about sex among teenagers and naive to

imagine that their magazines could avoid

exploring emotions. Indeed, given the em-

barrassment some parents feel, magazines

could play a part in educating teenagers and

encouraging responsibility. But few seem

inclined to preach the virtues of restraint.

More, with a significant readership under

16, prints a new sexual position for its

readers to try every fortnight. Looks carries a

feature on "Phwoor-play". TV Hits advises a

reader who inquires about oral sex to "lie

back and enjoy it". The magazines may

insert warnings, but readers are left with the

impression that most girls of their age are

already sexually active. Peer pressure is

insidious at any time, but few are more

vulnerable than adolescents. Fashion mat-

ters to teenagers and in these magazines

chastity has all the allure of a ra-ra skirt.

"Renuncie. Samper!" - "Resign, Samper"

is a cry now heard across Colombia. The

country is still old-fashioned, so the cry is al-

ways made in the polite form of the imper-

ative: but as the clamour grows daily more

impassioned, the position of the man who is

Ernesto Samper, Colombia's President,

the focus of this ire has become indefensible.

may soon face impeachment by his country's

Congress. He stands accused of having ac-

cepted, in his presidential campaign in 1994,

millions of dollars in donations from the

Cali drugs cartel. Judicial officers, acting

with integrity and courage, will soon pass

the results of their investigations to a con-

gressional committee. Since Señor Samper's

Liberal Party enjoys a majority in both par-

liamentary houses, he may yet salvage his

much-tarnished political career. That, how-

ever, would be a shame for Colombia, and.

It is impossible to ignore the curiosity.

WISE VIRGINS

The Age of Innocence is getting shorter

COLOMBIA'S 'CALIGATE'

President Samper should now prepare for departure

of view, most significant) judgment upon its implications. This may seem a small matter - of concern chiefly to newspapers. But it is also one of the instruments of control that the Government is prepared to use against a report which it commissioned three years ago but would rather it had not. A machine wedded to secrecy is being used against a judge appointed to examine the harmful consequences of that very addiction.

For journalists and opposition spokesmen to absorb 2,000 pages and form a lasting judgment upon them takes longer than half an afternoon. Yet the reaction that readers will find in Friday week's newspapers and the instant attack that Labour will be expected to mount will necessarily be upon

the basis of a hurried reading of the report. The summary that will accompany the findings will have been drafted by the Government, not by the author. It will be all too easy to highlight passages that exonerate ministers and to pass over those that do not. When the Franks Committee reported on the events leading up to the Falklands conflict, great initial attention was drawn to the one paragraph in the conclusion - quite at variance with the rest of the report - that portrayed government actions in a rosy light. Inevitably this tended to colour the

coverage of the findings.

Journalists will obviously do their best to avoid being "spun" by spokesmen of all the groups involved. They have been warned of what to expect by Lord Howe's attempts to smear the character of Sir Richard and the terms of his inquiry. They will try not to allow the selective leaks that will undoubtedly appear between now and next Thursday to influence their final judgment.

Ministers should be clear, however, that the full judgment on Scott will not be complete by Friday morning, and the fate of ministers will not be determined by Friday week's headlines. The influence of the report upon the conduct of government will go further than the achievement or avoidance of a ministerial resignation. The Scott report will shine a light into Whitehall cellars that have never before been illuminated. The their first (and, from the Government's point consequences will take time to emerge.

Fashion magazines have already played a

part in blighting the lives of many young

women by draping the most attractive of

clothes on surreally thin models. The domin-

ance of this skewed notion of beauty has

coincided with a worrying increase in the

number of young women with dietary dis-

orders. How much more irresponsible is it to

teenage pregnancies are still too high and

evidence strongly suggests that early sexual

activity increases the risk of cervical cancer?

to see just how explicit were the magazines

his ten-year-old daughter read. His Bill

would lead publishers to print the approved

age range of a magazine's readership on the

front cover to protect the innocent. Sadly, his

measure would probably prove counter-

productive. Branding a magazine "adults

only" gives it all the alture of the forbidden.

The answer is not the heavy hand of statute

but closer parental control and an honest

Parents should make it clear that new

sexual positions are not suitable reading

matter for girls under 16, reassure their

daughters that they are in the majority if

they wait, and warn them of the real dangers

of early experimentation. Editors and

proprietors should ask themselves how hap-

py they are to bid for pocket money by pro-

mising sex. They have a duty of care to their

readers as much as their marketing de-

partments. They should tread more warily.

months now, been an almost total collapse

in relations between the American Adminis-

tration and the Samper Government. The

activities of the Drug Enforcement Adminis-

tration, and the extent of Colombian collab-

oration in the fight against the narcotrafic-

antes, have suffered as a result of "Caligate".

hefty price for Señor Samper's refusal to step

down. On March I, the American admin-

istration is due to announce its annual "cer-

tification" of countries engaged in the battle

against drugs. This brings all sorts of be-

nefits to the certified country, most impor-

tantly a large package of American aid and a

preferential tariff rate for the export to the

US of a range of goods. Last year, Colombia

received only a "conditional" certification.

based on "American national security

interests". But the conclusion was then

recorded that Colombia's fight against drug-

An adverse decision by the US in March

would not be without its risks: anti-Amer-

ican feeling in Colombia, now dormant, may

be rekindled. Señor Samper, if still in office.

would be ill-advised to make populist capital

out of Washington's censure. Worryingly, he

has not often spurned a populist trick: only

last month he sought to circumvent the

judicial process by calling for a referendum

on his fitness for office. That will not happen,

of course, as the rule of law is still held in

esteem by Colombians. Señor Samper,

however, is not. He should find another job.

traffickers was less than wholehearted.

Colombia's people could have to pay a

searching of editorial consciences.

Mr Luff, like many parents, was shocked

encourage a negonistic attitude to s

TERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Preserving the Kohl convoy from shots across the bows

From Mr Michael Welsh

Sir, The Euro-sceptics' advocacy of the indiscriminate use of the British veto at the forthcoming inter-governmental conference, such as that put forward by William Cash in his letter of January 21, reveals their intellec-

tual bankruptcy.
As Chancellor Kohl made clear at Leuven last week (report, February 3), our European parmers are determined to press ahead to closer integration because they believe that their national interest requires it, it would be neither morally acceptable nor politically wise for Britain to use her veto to frustrate the wishes of 14 other sovereign states.

The last person to attempt this kind of bullying was General de Gaulle in 1965. After nine months of the "empty chair" he was forced to back down because the other member states realised that the Community could not work if one member required its national interest to prevail over all the

if our Government attempted to follow his example the leaders of the European convoy might well come to the conclusion that it was not worth jeopardising the entire fleet for the sake of one recalcitrant member who refused to keep on station. Willing and active co-operation between independent sovereign states can work only if there is an underlying willingness to

co-operate.

While the Atlantic Alliance has triumphantly seen off the Soviet threat, the European Community has neutralised the aggressive nationalism that has disfigured so much of our common history by making war be-tween the partners impossible. Most Europeans rightly value this achievement, and they are not likely to allow the British to undermine the process that has made it possible.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL WELSH (Chief Executive), Action Centre for Europe Limited, 181 Town Lane, Whittle le Woods, Chorley, Lancashire. February 5.

From Sir Anthony Meyer

Sir, There are valid arguments for relaxing some of the Maastricht cri-teria for European monetary union, and even for postponing it: and these are quite fairly set out in your leading article of February 5, "A heavy tread".

However, the Germans and others are rightly suspicious of such advice coming from those who have not only been the slowest in the convoy, but have boasted of their slowness; and they are equally right to insist that the European single market will remain precarious until it has monetary stability.
When Chancellor Kohl warns that

nationalism means war, he is not overlooking the fact that it was Nato which averted a war with the Soviet Union; he is reminding us that it has been the European Community principle of pooled sovereignty which has imposed restraint on its member states, and that if this principle is rejected there is a very real danger that governments in both Eastern and Western Europe will feel compelled to protect their vital economic and political interests by all means, including

I am, etc. ANTHONY MEYER, European Movement - UK. 11 Tufton Street, SW1.

From Mr Ian Curteis

Sir, In his speech invoking the possibilities of war if the rest of us fail to conform to the sort of Europe Ger-many wants Chancellor Kohl once more misuses the word "national-

Nationalism is the sense of nationhood, no more and no less. It is as natural and healthy an instinct to a citizen of any country as the sense of belonging to the unit of a family is to children. To imply that there is something sinister and retrogressive about it, and that a nation is really no more than an administrative unit, flies in the face of two thousand years of European art and literature and all

we know about the human psyche. To ignore nationalism is not only foolish, it is dangerous -- as the bloody reversion of the nations press-

ganged to make up the artificial USSR, and the artificial Yugoslavia. shows so clearly. To attempt to build a new Europe by suppressing it is like designing a house which ignores the forces of gravity, and the result would be the same.

Yours truly. IAN CURTEIS, The Mill House, Coln St Aldwyns, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. February 5.

From Mr P. A. Rawlings

Sir, How little we learn from history. Today you quote Chancellor Kohl as saying that "the slowest ship in the convoy [Britain] should not be allowed to determine the speed". Perhaps he should be reminded that the convoy system was developed to combat German aggression (ie. the U-boat threat) and only worked because the convoy did travel at the speed of the slowest

Yours faithfully, P. A. RAWLINGS, 6 School Road. Sible Hedingham, Halstead, Essex. February 3.

From Mr Laurence Cotterell

Sir, Herr Kohl takes his evident aversion to militarism a bit far when he transfers an old cavalry metaphor to the high seas as "the slowest ship in the convoy should not be allowed to determine its speed"

This transfer is the more remarkable when one considers that the original concept is often attributed to, among others, his countryman, General von Seydlitz (1721-83): "the speed of a cavalry charge is the speed of the

Yours faithfully, LAURENCE COTTERELL, 121 St Paul's Wood Hill, St Pauls Cray, Kent.

'Forums' needed for pop composers

From Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber

Sir, I am sorry that I did not make entirely clear to your Arts Correspondent what I feel about contemporary pop (report, January 29; letters, February 5). For more than a decade, I and others have been trying to create forums for the discovery of new composers. This is why I support the National Youth Music Theatre, with two clear objectives. First, to en-courage the NYMTs wonderful group of performers, and secondly to bring to the attention of the creative world a young and enthusiastic musical theatre group ready, willing and

Musical theatre badly needs new writers and pop should be one of their influences. However, I continue to feel, from a musical theatre perspective, that the last decade in pop was

musicals, but I think it would be very hard to put together a compilation evening of any pop writer from the mid-80s to mid-90s in the way that has

who have commented that the pop charts have taken a turn for the better in the last few months. I for one would be very excited if new writers like Noel Gallagher started experimenting in the theatre and I hope that the recent trend, particularly in British pop.

22 Tower Street, WC2.

Averting a catastrophe in Burundi Electoral reform

From the Reverend David Mason. Chairman of the Electoral Reform Society

Sir. The single transferable vote would not have the effect on British politics that Anthony Howard has claimed ("Hemsworth, PR and the lessons for new Labour", February 3). The experience with STV in Ireland is that it does not lead to a great proliferation of parties and a party would need around 15 per cent of the

The alternative vote which he proposes is not a proportional system. If you look to the example of the 1990 general election in Australia, where it is used, it led to the Liberal/National coalition, with more votes getting fewer seats than the Labour oppo-

The British university seats, until 1950, used the single transferable vote, not the alternative vote, in two or three-member, though not, of course, single-member seats.

It is up to the British people to decide on the type of democracy they want in a referendum, not for poli-ticians to decide for them behind closed doors.

Yours sincerely, DAVID MASON, Chairman.

Electoral Reform Society, 6 Chancel Street, Blackfriars, SEI. February 5.

Wolves in the wild

From Nicholas Wilski

Sir, I read with great interest Jim Crumley's article (Weekend, January 27; see also letter, February 2) about a project to bring back to the Scottish Highlands animals such as wolves,

beavers and lynx. My father is Polish and we often go on holiday to the Tarra mountains where wolves, bears, lynx and wild boar still live in the wild. It makes the pine forests of Poland so much more exciting to think that those dangerous

and frightening animals are there.

I think that it is a very good idea to make the Scottish forests also exciting.

NICHOLAS WILSKI (aged 11). Claremont CP School, Banner Farm Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. February 2

From Mr John Gudgeon Sir, Mr Roger Panaman, who writes

to you (February 2) on behalf of the Carnivore Wildlife Trust, himself appears to live in Oxfordshire. In view of his comments on the

diversity of the wolf's habitat, may one ask why no one seems to be proposing to reintroduce the animal there, specifically Church Street, Kidlington?

Yours truly. JOHN GUDGEON. 2 Clackclose Road. Downham Market, Norfolk. February 2.

Business letters, page 29

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

From Mr Tony Cunningham, MEP for Cumbria and Lancashire North

(Socialist Group (Labour))

Sir. The international community was too late to avert catastrophe in Rwanda. When the media finally started covering the genocide, it was too late for international peacekeepers to act. UN troops were sitting in their barracks watching the massacre, able to do nothing because they had no mandate to act. Millions had died before the international community was ready to react.

We now know that a similar situation is just waiting to happen in Burundi. Members of the European Parliament heard on January 30 in Brussels that tension is mounting in the country. There are two million refugees and displaced people. The capital, Bujumbura, is now a Tutsi city. It used to be a mixed city of Hutu and Tutsi. Ethnic cleansing has already taken place. The Government has asked some non-governmental organisations to leave Burundi.

The European Union, the Organis ation for African Unity, the UN and NGOs all want to do something to hindering humanitarian efforts. Of the possibility of sending peacekeeping troops into Burundi, Emma Bonino, the European Commissioner in charge of humanitarian affairs, told Members of the European Par-liament that the EU's efforts are severely limited by its lack of a common foreign policy.

help. But a lack of co-ordination is

The EU is spending half a million dollars a day in the central lakes region on humanitarian aid. But keeping people alive in the short term will not solve the long-term problems. The international institutions need to devise mechanisms to allow them to help prevent economic and ethnic tensions from escalating into civil war and genocide. In the short term they must act to diffuse the potential for

Yours faithfully, TONY CUNNINGHAM (European Labour Party's Spokesperson on Development). European Parliament, 97-113 Rue Belliard, B-1047 Brussels. February 6.

University funding

From Mrs Kimberley Jordan Reeman

Sir, Higher education is not and never has been free in Canada, or in the United States, nor has anyone ever sugested or expected it (letters, February 2). Students pay a yearly tuition fee in addition to paying for their books and accommodation. If required, financial assistance is

available in the form of repayable grants, or, for the academically outstanding, scholarships. The majority of students work from April to September to finance their education. This system engenders a certain

commitment and maturity among Canadian and American students, who choose university not as a place to waste three government-funded years of their lives, but for the love of knowledge and as preparation for a Higher education is not a right. It is

and should be a privilege, for which my generation (I am a 41-year-old Canadian graduate) was paying the equivalent of 5300 a year in tuition fees twenty years ago.

KIMBERLEY JORDAN REEMAN. Blue Posts, Eaton Park Road, Cobham, Surrey. January 30.

Instant off-put

From Mr Robert Garwood

Sir, I had reason to ring the British Gas inquiry line today. Perhaps in view of its record on customer complaints it carried a recorded message: Thank you for calling. All our staff are currently attending an important briefing. Please call back later.

Yours truly, R. GARWOOD, 60 Kirby Drive, Barton Hills, Luton, Bedfordshire.

True forgiveness

From Mrs Claire Foster

Sir, Together with the pupils to whom I teach religious studies I was interested by Matthew Parris's honest if despairing account of the impossibility of true forgiveness of others — and even more interested in the range of responses his column evoked (article, January 22; letters, January 27, Feb-

I wondered in particular at the accuracy of Mr Richard Gunning's view, that "Christians are not supposed to like their enemies". He is correct, of course. Christians are not supposed to like their enemies, they are supposed to love them (Matthew v. 44; Luke vi. 27).

The love that Christ taught, universal in its scope and unchanging in the face of any change, would not edit the "hurt file" in Matthew Parris's brain. It would delete it altogether.

Yours faithfully CLAIRE FOSTER. 40 Cardross Street, W6. February 1.

From Mr David McKeand

Sir, Christian forgiveness: well, yes. But who is to forgive the insufferable conceit of all us forgivers?

Yours faithfully, DAVID MCKEAND, Middle Beard's Mill, Leonard Stanley, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire. February 1.

Ways to fall asleen

From Mrs Ada Day Sir. One of our Methodist ministers gave us some good advice (letters, February 5), "Don't count the sheep talk to the shepherd."

Yours faithfully. ADA DAY, 26 Nickson Court, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

able to perform new works.

When I sponsored the NYMT's visit to Broadway last year, it was to put them under a spotlight - to show just what they could do. They received fabulous reviews and played to full houses, but the lack of coverage of their success in the UK did not encourage young writers to come forward. A full-page advertisement in The New York Times has not yet borne fruit.

not very encouraging; it was a pretty barren period melody-wise. I am not a fan of compilation

been successfully done on Broadway with the songs of, say, Leiber and Stoller in Smokey Joe's Cafe.

However, I totally agree with those

continues apace.

Yours faithfully.
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER. February 5.

Welles's whale

From Mr Simon Callow

Sir, It is one thing to be panned in one's lifetime (First night, January 31), quite another to be falsely maligned after one's death, as has happened to poor Orson Welles, who Benedict Nightingale uses as a stick with which to beat me and my production of Les Enfants du Paradis; guilt by associa-

Welles did not, as Nightingale alleges, try to put the whale on stage in his 1955 Mohy Dick Rehearsed at the Duke of York's theatre. It was a notably economical and evocative evening. much admired at the time: Sir Peter Hall still regards it as one of the best productions of his theatre-going life.

Perhaps your critic was thinking of Welles's version of Around the World in Eighty Days. Told by The New York Times that he had put everything in it bar the kitchen sink. Welles repaired the omission the following night by appearing at the curtain call carrying that item of kitchen furniture.

Yours sincerely. SIMON CALLOW. c/o Marina Martin Associates. 12-13 Poland Street, Wl. February 2.

Jazz legacy

From Mr Daniel Lightman

Sir, Replying to the assertion by the obituarist of Gerry Mulligan (January 22) that "most great jazz artists have matured only in their fifties". Mr Solomon (letter, January 26) rightly points out that many jazz masters did not even live to the age of 50. He should have added that several of those (few) jazz greats who did survive that long had ceased to make any significant musical contribution many years before they reached 50.

In some cases this was due to illhealth - Buddy Bolden lived to 62 but spent his last two decades in a lunatic asylum; in others, because the public lost interest in music it regarded as outmoded --- Jelly Roll Morton's polyphonic sound was no longer appreciated in the big band era; and some — such as Artie Shaw, still alive today at 85 but retired from performing for over 40 years - simply became disillusioned with the jazz world.

Yours faithfully, DANIEL LIGHTMAN. 5b Prince Arthur Road, NW3.

Cricket commentary

From Mr Najam Butt

Sir, The refusal of the Australian and West Indian cricket teams to take part in the Sri Lanka leg of the World Cup (report, February 6) should be condemned. The organisers should not reschedule the fixtures.

Would these players have considered abandoning an international fixture in England if, say, the IRA had just bombed London? I do not believe so. This appears to be a petty continuation of the bad spirit in which recent matches against Sri Lanka have been played. Remember, the Aussies were threatening to withdraw before last week's bomb in Colombo.

Yours sincerely, N. BUTT.

41 Jordan Road, Perivale, Middlesex.

the least satisfactory end to the sordid affair. The evidence in the public domain is so farinconclusive. But there is no question that Señor Samper has lost the confidence of the electorate. Key ministers and ambassadors have resigned. Both the treasurer and the manager of his election campaign are in prison. When the latter stated recently that the President knew of the tainted source of much of his campaign money - which the President immediately, and strongly, denied - nationwide poils revealed that few were

prepared to believe Senor Samper. The evaporation of confidence has not oc-

curred in Colombia alone: there has, for



COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE

February 6: The Hon Mrs Rhodes has succeeded Dame Frances Campbell-Preston as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. ST JAMES'S PALACE

February 6: The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Gurkha Rifles, this morning received Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Duffell (Colonel).

His Royal Highness later planted a tree and attended a Reception at the residence of the Indian High Commissioner to celebrate Indo-British Friendship.

The Prince of Wales this evening visited the "Design of the Times" Exhibition and attended a Centenary Dinner at the Royal College of Art. London SW7.

KENSINGTON PALACE February 6: The Princess of Wales. President, this morning visited the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London WC1.

YORK HOUSE, February 6: The Duke of Kent will this evening attend a reception for the Transnet

Libertas Choir of South Africa, hosted by the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mariborough House, Pall Mall. London SWI.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

February 6: Princess Alexandra this morning visited the Cassel Hospital, Ham Common. Richmond, Surrey.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, as Colonel-in-Chief of The Cheshire Regiment. will visit the 1st Battalion at Oakington Barracks, Cambridge. at 10.45; and will open the new Peterborough environment centre and the Eco House and view an exhibition of the work of the Peterborough Environment City Trust at 33 Westgate, Peterborough, at 245.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the science centre at Peter Symonds' College, Owens Road, Winchester, at 11.30; and will visit Bendick of Mayfair's factory at Moorside Road at 2.00.

The Duke of Kent, as Patron of the British Menswear Guild, will visit Aquascutum, Trafalgar Road, Kettering, Northamptonshire, at 10.30; will visit Ilmore Engineer-ing, Quay Road, Brixworth, at 11.30; and will visit Foilwraps Flexible Packaging, Teater Road, Moult Park Industrial Estate. Northampton, at 2.00.

Today's events

The Queen's Life Guard mounts at Horse Guards at 11.00. The Queen's Guard mounts at Buckingham Palace at 11.30,

Lord Taverne

The life barony conferred upon Mr Dick Taverne, OC, has been title of Baron Taverne, of Piralico in the City of Westminster.

Premium Bonds

The following Premium Bond prize winners have been announced: E100.000: 38WT 892697, winner has a holding of £3,805 and comes from West Yorkshire; 43QS 464498, £20,000, Richmond upon

Thames. £50,000: 41BW 159488. £15,000, Westminster, London; 15MW 559252, £10.050, Essex; 45LN 740577, £10.010, West Sussex. £25,000: 19AZ 662750, £20,000, Durham: 23XW 211274, £2,650, Durham: 27PP 995849, £5,701, Highlands and Islands: 46EF 119170, £8,000, West Glamorgan.

Sir Godfrey Agnew A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Godfrey Agnew, KCVO, CB, will be held in St George's

Chapel, Windsor Castle, on Wednesday, March 27, at noon. Mr Denzil Sebag-Montefiore

The memorial service for Denzil

Sebag-Montefiore will be held at

Bevis Marks Synagogue, London, EC3, on Monday, April 15, at 1100n.

Luncheon

Mr Max Hastings, Editor of the Evening Standard, was the guest speaker at a luncheon held yesterday at Toynbee Hall. Mr John Profumo, president, was in the chair. The Hon Henry Hood also

Today's birthdays

Mrs G.T. Banks, former Registrar General for England and Wales, 63; Lord Bellwin. 73; Mr P.W. Bennett, former chairman, W.H. Smith and Son Holdings, 79; Mrs Caroline Bingham, writer, 58: Miss Dora Bryan, actress, 72; Mr Gerald Davies, rugby player. 51: Howitt, management consultant, 76; Mr Ian Jack, Editor, Granta, 51; Mr Michael James, writer and nuclear energy adviser, 55; the

Hon Peter Jay, writer and broad-caster, 59; Lord Keith of Kinkel, 74; Mr D.R. Langslow, chief exec utive, English Nature, 51; Sir John Leahy, diplomat, 68; Sir George Moseley, civil servant, 71:Sir Geof-frey Mulcahy, chief executive, Kingfisher, 54; Sir Philip Myers, former Chief Constable, North Wales Police, 65: Mr David Park, author, 43; Earl St Aldwyn, 46; Mr R.W. Watson, former director-general, NFU. 70.

Dinners Royal Pharmaceutical Society

of Great Britain
Miss Ann Lewis, President of the
Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was in the chair at a dirner held last night at I Lambeth High Street. Professor Barrie Jay, Master of the Society of Apothecaries of London, also spoke.

Transport UK
The Right Hon Sir George Young, 8t.
Secretary of State for Transport, was
the Guest of Honour at the Annual
Dinner of the Confederation of Passenger Transport UK, held yesterday
at Graysory Hester London, The at Grosvenor House, Landon, The President of the Confederation, Mr Ron Whittle, Managing Director, Go Whittle, presided.

Appointments Mr Anthony Everett and Mr John Trotter have been appointed Deputy Lieutenants of Greater London.

DEATHS

Statue of Maya king found By Norman Hammond, archaeology correspondent

IMPORTANT Maya sculpture commemorating the accession of an early king has been found at the site of Palenque in Mexico. A depickneeling captive is accompanied by a hieroglyphic inscription.

The text names the king, Ah Kul Ah Nab, who reigned from AD 501 to 524, and confirms for the first time that he was the younger brother of the ruler Sak-Chik, who reigned for 14 years from AD 487. They were the sons of a long-lived king, presently known only by the nickname "Casper", who came to the throne at the age of 13 and remained there for 52 years.

in low relief, was found in centuries later, during Palenque's apogee under the ruler Chan-Bahlam. The Mexican archaeologist Arnoldo Gonzalez Cruz, who found the elaborate tomb of a royal woman at Palenque in 1994 (The Times, June 4, 1994), has published a photograph of the carving in the journal Arqueologia

Mexicana. The inscription gives a date in the Maya calendar equiva-

before noting that Ah Kul The new tablet, made from a took, the white headband on creamy limestone and carved his accession on May 6, 501. It also records that just before to have been built nearly two campaign to prove his fitness for the throne, he had captured a noble prisoner, presumably the youth who is

shown kneeling before him. The new inscription can be read almost in its entirety, thanks to the rapid decipherment of Maya hieroglyphic writing in recent years. At least 13 kings of Palenque in a dynasty reigning from AD 437 to after 799 have now been

University news

All Souls College To Post-Doctoral Research Fellow ships (from October i): Mr Faramerz Noshir Dabhoiwala Sheffield University). Dr Michael McQuillan (Universita Degli Studi di Roma).

Cambridge

Duchan

Hughes Hall Elected into a Fellowship in Class C with effect from January I: Donald Ian McIntyre, Professor of

The Hon Mrs Elsie Tu, the Newcastle born elder states-woman of Hong Kong, has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law by the university. She was a student at Durham 60 years ago.

Stirting Honorary degrees will be awarded to the following on February 24:

D Univ Ronald Stevenson, for his contribution to music and the arts: Graeme Gordon, for his contribu-tion to aquaculture in Scotland: nie McOwan, for his contribu tion to Scottish writing and

ΜÀ The Rev James Taylor, for his contribution to the university and the community.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: St Thomas More, hu-manist and statesman, Chancellor Fuseli, painter and writer. Zurich.

1741; Charles Dickens, novelist.

Portsmouth, 1812; Sir William Huggins, astronomer, London, 1824: Sir James Murray, philologist, Denholm, Borders, 1837; Alfred Adler, psychiatrist, Vienna, 1870; Sinclair Lewis, novelist, Nobel laureate 1930, Sauk Centre, Minnesota, 1885.

DEATHS: James Stewart, 2nd Earl of Moray, murdered at Deonibristle, Fife, 1592; William Boyce organist and composer, London, 1779; Ann Raddiffe, novelist, London, 1823; Henry Neele, poet, committed suicide in London, 1828: Joseph Sheridan LeFanu, novelist, Dublin, 1873; Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone. Paris, 1894; Daniel François Ma-lan, Prime Minister of South Africa 1948-54, Stellenbosch, Cape Colony, 1959.

William Lloyd smashed the 1st-century Portland vase at the British Museum, 1845. 185 people died when HMS Or-pheus was wrecked off the coast of New Zealand, 1863.

The main group of the Dead Sea Scrolls was discovered, 1947. Grenada gained independe

Service dinner

Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785 Mr Michael Portillo, MP, and Admiral Sir Jock Slater were the principal guests and speakers at a dinner of the Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785 held last night at the Naval and Military Club, Piccsdilly, to entertain members of the Admiralty Board and mark Founders' Day. Vice-Admiral Sir David Dobson presided

Legal appointment Mr Paul Ronald Mildred to be a District Judge, assigned to the South Eastern/Midland and Oxford Circuit.

Forthcoming . marriages

Mr J.A.M. Ashworth and Miss F.J. Harris The engagement is announced between Jon, son of Mrs Ashworth, of Princes Risborough Buckinghamshire, and Flora, daughter of Mr and Mrs E.W.P.

Harris, of Studland, Dorset. Mr G.J. Comber and Miss C.L. Bradshaw The engagement is announced between Gavin, elder son of Mr and Mrs Terence H. Comber, of Little Baddow, Essex, and Caroline Louiss, younger daught ter of Major and Mrs Henry Bradshaw, of Great Hambois,

Norfolk Mr.P. Dixon and Miss R. Barcroft The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs. R. Dixon, and Ruth, younger daughter of Mr Michael Barcroft and of Mrs Andrea Bercroft

Mr S.J. Donald and Miss A.J. Dean The engagement is announced between Stuart, elder son of Mr.

and Mrs D.L. Donald, of Reigans; Surrey, and Annabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.L. Dean, of Lusaka, Mr A.R. Eliot and Miss V.N. Lort Phillips

The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robin Eliot, of Boar's Head, East Sussex, and Venetia younger daughter of the late Mr Peregrine Lort-Phillips and of Mrs Carolyn Lort-Phillips, of Malmes: bury, Wiltshire. Mr S.R.D. Greene

and Miss S.E. Williams The engagement is announced between Smart, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Greene, of Kirribilli, Sydney, Australia, and Shan daughter of Mr and Mrs Clive Williams, of Rickmansworth Hertfordshire. Captain A.G. Sheves

The engagement is announced a between Andrew, elder son of Dr. and Mrs G. Sheves, of Freedown, Sierra Leone, and Sara, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Nigel Lodge, of Thorpe End. Norwich.

Marriage Mr A.J. Taylor

and Mrs C.H. Edgley The marriage took place quietly on January 25, in Brackley, of Mr Andrew Taylor, son of Mr and Mrs Philip Taylor, of Chisel-hampton and Majorca, to Mrs & Caroline Edgley, daughter of Mr Richard Tetley, of Chastleton, and Mrs Joy Tetley, of Strykley.

Linnean Society of London

The Linnean Society of London has made the following awards: The Linnean Medal for services to the Lineau Medal for services to botany: Professor Jack Heslop-Harrison, Welsh Blant Breeding Station, Aberyshyth, The Liangan Medal for services in zoology: Professor Keith Vickerman, Glasgow University. The H.H. Bloomer Award for an

amateur naturalist who has made an important contribution to bio-logical knowledge: John Henry, Barrett, Field Studies Council. The Bicentenary Medal in recognition of work carried out by a biologist under 40: Dr Paul Hugh Williams, the Natural History Museum. The Jill Smythles Prize for pub-lished botanical illustration: Bent

Johnsen, Copenhagen, Denmark. The Irene Manton Prize for the best PhD thesis in botany: Dr Dorothy Steane, Oxford University.

-TRADE: 0171 481 1982

BMDS: 0171 782 7272 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

Children cover their ears against the noise as the Honourable Artillery Company fires a 62-gun salute at the

Tower of London yesterday to mark the 44th anniversary of the Queen's accession to the Throne

dons and teaches knowledge and understanding. Out of his store he endows the upright with ability. Proverbs 2 : 6 (REB) BIRTHS

BARKER - Sarah (née Cosa and Nick are delighted to amounce the birth of Kahr Alexandra, on February 1st. a sister for Emma. SSMG - On January 25rd, to Zoe (née Mur) and Andraw. a daughter, Kathestne. a daughter, Katherine.

BRISTORS - On February 6th.

to Kate (née Chenjan) and
Shoon, a daughter, Geruns
Elizabeth, a teher for Guy.

CARRINGTON - On 28th
January, to Philip and Am
(née Rees), a daughter, Lydia
Rose.

CLAUSON - On ist February, to Camilla (née Azis) and Julian. a son, Albert de Symons, a brother for Jack and Frederick.
COOK - On February 1st. by
Catherine tole Toovery) and
Richard. a son. Sebastian
Ouver Jack Tyrer, a brother
for Camilia. Amelia and
Besedict. That's all follow

Benedici. That's all folial COREA - On Sard February, to Ivan and Charlis, a son. Charlin Yashada. Daniel Charlin Yashada. Daniel Charlin Yashada. Daniel Charlin Yashada. Daniel Charlin Char

McOMISH - On 31st January to Carenza (née Lawis) and David, a son. Dominick Robert, a brother for Ama. moust, a brower for Annia.

MEELUISH - On January

31st, to Lindsey (nee
Fordyce) and Mark, a
daughter, Beth Mary, a siter
(or Jessica, George and

Callenn

Caltern.
MORRISH - On 5th February.
to Francas (née Chifford-Jones) and Charles, a daughter. Georgia Sarah, a sister for Isabel and Lucy. Military - On 5th February. to 'The (née Furstenberg) and Alexander, a daughter, Rosa. Alexander, a daugitar, Eosa.

RADFORD - On 3rd February

at The Lindo Wing, to
Matthew and Pippy (née
Houdsworth), a soa, Marçus
Harry, a brother for Freddie. HATTY, a brother for Freque,
RENOISF - On 3rd February
1996 at University College
Hospital, London, to Katie
Sparies and Mark Renous, a
daughter, Caitiff Arma.
ROMSON - On February 2nd
at The Portland Hospital, to
Michele (note Fabricand and
Laurence, a son, Joshum, a
brother for Hanriotta and
David.

David. SANDERS - On February 3rd Hespital, to at The Portland Hospital, to Karby and Doug, a lovely daughter, Kristen, a sister for Michael, Nicole, and Rachel SWYCHER - On 11th January, to Sally (net Farmer) and Niget, a son, Adam Thomas, a brother for Emma Scott. Milson - On 28th January, to Jenuifer (16s Fleming) and William, a daughter, Ruth Elizabeth Eckett. DEATHS

AMOS - Gabrielle (oée
AMOS - Gabrielle (oée
Gedney) formerly Gaby
Wynne-Eyron, widow of
Rec. mether of Charles. Died
peacefully 25th January
aged 8A. Funeral at St
Many's. Doddington, Cambs.
noon Salurday 10th
February.
AMDERSON - Derothy Anne
(née Harvey) peacefully on
February 6th 1996. The
beloved wife of James, dear
mother of Richard and
Timothy and a much loved
granny to Edward and
Sizabeth Funeral private.
AUSURY - Peacefully on 4th
February 1996. Violet Many
of Shepperton, Middleeze,
formerly Dorchester Foots
London (aged 10th). Much
loved. Enquiries to C.W.,
Lyons & Son. (01227)
a63508.
BALL - LL. Col. Harold
Gonway "Taffy" Ball
RAM.C. red. of Ferndale,
Rhondda. Peacefully on
Saturday 3rd February at
12wynypia Hospital aged 82.
Loving husband of the late
Edna 2nd faither of Garshit
and the Iale Dylan.
Compsmorative Service on
Monday 12th February at
3pm at Glyntaff
Cranalorium, Pentypridd.
Rhondda, Mid-Glamorgan.
Femilia of the Canter
Research Campalign to
Hawys James. 9 Darren
Terrace. Femilia, Ebbodda.
Mid-Glamoryan. CF43 4LG.
BESCH - Roy Creasy
Frederick, joving musband of
Anne Gwendolen. and
beisved father of Elizabeth
and Anthony, died on
Festuary 3rd 1996. within
three weeks of his 100th
birinday. Funeral Monday
Festuary 12th 12 hood at
Auton Rowant Church.
Coon. followed by mivete
cremation. Family flowers
only. Donations if desired to
Auton. 6 The Green. Aston.
Rowant. CN9 08T.

Rowant, OX9 55T.

BOWMAN - Peacefully on Sunday 4th February Nittle Moore, aged 38, late of Woodbridge and more recently Gerrards Cross. Much loved sum, great-aunt who always enjoyed life to the full. She will be sadly missed by all her family and dramb.

Private Jennity funeral.

DEATHS

BROAD - Irene (Renè) Eleanor, peacetully pussed away in the arms of her three loving despiters, after a long fight against multiple sclerosis on 5th February some that seems into a sciences on Sth February 1996, after being cared for by the narvelious staff at Handmere Nursing Home in Bentall, for the last 5 years. Much loved wife of the last Bernard Albart, mother of Steam. Tessa and Marquert and doting grandmother of Steam. Tessa and Marquert and doting grandmother of Steam. Tessa and Marquert and toding or and marganit. Private fineral with family flowers only, but donations to SSAFA. "Tens. the fight is over, now you can stand tall and walk with dignity forever." All our love we will nike you.

BROWMI - Violet Evelyn, On.

will mise you.

BROWN - Violet Evelyn. On 5th February peaceholds at Pinewood Lodge Nursing Home to Obstond. Devon and Collingbourne Ducis, Wilmhire. Dear steer of Marry Sword. the late Chifferd Fatmer-Brown and the late Alica Luming. Loving aunt of all her nephews and nieces. Service of Thanksgiving at St Marry's Church. Diptford on Tuesday 27th February at 2.50 pm. Enquiries to Petring Funeral Services let: (01903) 862417.

CHARDLER - Manrice, C.S.E.

(01903) 862417.

GHANDLER - Maurica. C.B.E. On Saturday. 3rd February. Suddenly. at the Nuffield Hospital. Infector. Solemn Requisin and Funeral at the Church of St Mary de Chairo. Leicater. on Saturday. 17th February. 1996. at 12.30pm. Committel grivate. Reception at de Monfort University. Leicester. Flowers or Donations to Charity via Ginna & Gintaridge Life.

Donations to Charity via Ginna & Gutteridge Ltd., Vasyhan Way, Leicester (0116-251 6117). Those attending the Service and recipion to the Gibert.

COMMEN - Joyce (the Gibert) wife of Richard and mother of Gibert. Rosamond. William and Cocilia. Died peacefully at house on 3rd February. Funeral took place on 5th February. No flowers please.

please.

GORBEN - Jack. on 6th Yebrany 1996, peacefully in hospital aged 91. Much loved father of Sendra, Selly and Richard. Dear brother of Joan and adored grandpa and great-grandpa. Private cremation. Service of Thankogiving at \$1 Nicholse Church, Linton. 3 pm Monday 12th February. Donations in his memory can be made to 5t Nicholas Church or The Heart of Kept Hospice (of Pickard & Best Hospice (of Pickard & Best Met 4 4RU.

The second secon

COXON - Roy Bernard. on 3rd February 1996. Sadly missed by Jean. Christopher and Sally. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired to South Brostley Hospicecare. ERGAS - Isaac Hanry, greatly loved husband of Rikki and father of Yasmina. Henry and Jean on Sunday 4th February 1996 at The New York Hospital, New York Hospital, New York after a short Elmeas. Funeral Service at The Jewish Cometery, Verson, Rome at 10 am on Monday 12th February 1996. FLURY - Peggy aged 100 died peacefully on February 4th at Eastwood Lodge Nursing Home, Woodhall Sps.

at Eastwood Lodge Nursing Home, Woodhall Spa.

HALFORD-THOMPSOM - On February 4th 1996 suddenly at home. Peter It. Col. M.C., T.D., R.A., in his Soft year, beleved insubsand, father and grandfather. A Thanksgiving Service will be held in St. Mary's Church, Longworth 12 neon on Saturday 2nd March, Fannly flowers only. Enquiries to A.E. Baker & Soms 1013677, 240672.

MALL-SMITH - On February 4th 1996, Angels at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, Much loved wife of Patrick and dearly loved by her seven grandchildren. Funeral Services at Holy Trinity Church. Hurstitlerpoint. West Sussex on Friday 9th February 4th 2.30 pm., followed by family interneut. Funeral Services at Holy Trinity Church. Hurstitlerpoint. West Sussex on Friday 9th February 4th 2.30 pm., followed by family interneut. Family flowers only. Donalions. If desired, to the Royal Medical Semevolent Fund. C/o Nigel Dengate Fundral Services. 143, Sectivible Road, Hove. Tel. (01273) 204410.

NARVEY - On Saturday, 3rd

Tet: (01273) 204410.

MARVEY - On Seturday, 3rd February 1996 Physics died peacefully, Widow of Eric. much loved Mother of Cristopher, Michael, Julist and Richard, Funeral service at St James Church, Southstoke, 8ath at 2 pm 12th February, Flowers to Funeral Directors. G. Mannings & Sons Ltd., Combe Down, Bath (01225) 857955).

ANWIGHS - Phylis Manda, peacefully at Sotton Manor Nursing Home, Winchester on 5th February. Remitted with har belowed George, There will be a Service of Thanksgiving in Bristol, Family flowers only, but denalism, if desired, to The Wesses Childrens Hospice Appeal c/o Jno. Sted & Son. Chetil Mouse, Winchester, SQ23 GHU. SO23 OHU. HESELTIME - Horbard (MOy), Painter and Thintre

DEATHS RROCKS - Valerie Anne

MORROCKS - Valerie Anne on 4th February, bencelully after a long battle against tancer, tourageously fought with a cheerful definance which never faltured. Beloved wife of Peter and much loved sister, anni and great-aunt. Funeral Service at St. Mary's Church, East Preston. on Monday February 12th at 12.30 pm, followed by interment in Pindon Censterry. Family flowers only but donations if wished to St. Barnabas Housice, cot H.D. Tribe Lid., 63 Sea Lane, Rustington, West Sussex, BN16 ZRQ.

west Summer, Besilo 280Q.

JARRES - On Sist January:
1996, pescelully at his house
in Brishel. Dr. John Janus:
CBE LLD, Salbar of Joan and
Pat, who survive him, and of
Dawn and David, The
cremation book place on 6th
February. Date of the
premorial service to be
amounted.

KOLESAR - On February Sm.
1996 peacefully at East
Surrey Hospital. Peter
1996 peacefully at East
Surrey Hospital. Peter
1996 aged 81. moth loved
father of Frances-Anns.
Simon and Charlotta.
Funeral Service at St Aiden's
Church. Coultdon. on
Monday 12th February at 12
noon followed by cremation
at Randollis Park.
Leatherhead. No flowers
please donations it desired to
the British Diapetic
Association c/o w.A.
Truelove & Son. bsl: (0181)
642-8211.

642-821.

LAMBERTY - Ryland Charles. Physician. on February 6th 1996. peacefully, and 87, at Queen Mary's Hospital. Hampstend. Dearly loved husband of Bethy and father of trene. David and John and much loved grandfather. Funnal Service at 5t Andrew's Church. Fromal on Friday. February 9th at 12 mon. followed by committal. Goldens Green Cremitorium at 1 mn. Family flowers only please. Donations, it destred. In 8td of Queen Mary's Hospital in Levetum & Soms Ltd.. 624 Finchter Road. Goldens Green, London NWII. (0181) 485-4992.

LEIGH - Yaleria, Beloved LEIGH - Valeria, Beloved wife, mother and grandmother. Died at freacher Homes Risco on Study 4th February 1996 after a sudden illness. Crashi in her death as she had been all her life. She will be desply missed by all her family and her many friends. Finneral with the held at Chelienham Crematorium to Monday 12th February at 11.30 atn. Enquiries and flowers to Meson & Shibs. Cheltenham (its: 01242 224877). DEATHS LOVELL-BURGESS - On 1st

LOVELL-BURGESS - On 1st February peacefully. Marjorie Agnes, aped 89, former Chairworam of the Catholic Woman League. Member of the National Council of Woman and Public Relations Gas Council. Sadly mised by Shella and Dorothy, loving cottains. Peneral Sarvice on Tuesday 15th February at 10.30 am at St Augustines Church. Tumbridge Wells, followed by cremation at 11.30 am.

MEALINGS - Richard Frederick of Birmingham, on 5th February 1996, aged 92 years. Hugbeard of the tax-holta, father of Richard and David and a caring grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service at 51 Augustine's Church. Edghasion, on Toesday 13th February at 11.30 am, followed by cremation at Yardley. No Slowers but domitions for St Augustine's Restoration Fund may be sent to The Reversual Ray Price, 44 Vernon Road, Birmingham, E16 95H.

MERICEL - On 3rd February 1996 panochthy at Epsom Gmoral Hospital, Khihleen (Kais). Loved and sadly missed. Service at Randalls Park Crematorium. Leatherteed. on Wednesday 14th February at 2 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to imperial Cancer Research Fund.

MICHELMONE - On February Sh 1996. T. Gasde J. Michelmore, aged St. Beloved hisband of Joan and influer of Peter, Margaret and Paul. Funeral at St. Swithun's Church. Woodbury, Friday February Sh at 12 noon. No flowers. donations to Deven Stouds. c/e Pairson Funeral Service. 45 High Street, Buddetgh Salterinn, EXS GLF.

MOLONY - Barbara, aged 89. on 3rd February 1996, devoted wife of the late Chartes Molony, and mach loved aunt of Nicholas Bordewich, Marry, James and William Hesgline, and Patry Wise. Funeral at Spautridge Cremainstant on 14th February at 12.3d pm. Exquiries te H. Petter and Sons. 01384 398048, As exhibition of her work will be held later.

DEATHS

MURRELL — Marjorie MECHB. FRCSE. psecebilly at Dundan House Nursing Home. Cable. Apad 94, on February 2nd 1996. Beloved and devoted life long companion of the late Hannah Margaret Reid of Edinburgh, devoted adoptive mother of Margaret Jane Lothian and sont to Peter Lothian. Much loved and loving sister of the late. Joan MacPherson and the Jale High Murrell. devoted until of the late Junys and the late Rosemary MacPherson. Devoted and much loved autof and great-aunt to George and Jane MacPherson and extended family. A much breasured. admired 2nd respected friend to meany. Purpural Friday 9th February 1996 at 3 pm at Semington Crematorium. Enquiries: E Wootler. Finneral Directors. 01249 812288.

NAISH - Perck Juper, on 4th February aged 7L peacetally after a long lineau. Dear instead of Stephangie and father of Jesury and Tan. Meeting at Friends' Meeting House. Horfrield, 200 Gloucastar Road, Bristyl at 3.15 ym on Thursday 8th February. Donations please to Stem Cell Feeserch Fund c/o Dr. J. Howes, Southmend Hospital, 3510 ONS.

POOLEY - Heary Paler Krohn
On 5th February 1996, peacefully at home in viller-cods-Gree, France, aged 84. Much loved and loving husband, brother, tather, grandfather and riend, Cremation Getunday, 10th February 1996 at Auserte.

BOCKINGHAM - On February 4th 1996 after an operation in Yeovil, Norman William (Bill) LL Cdr. R.N. of Bruton. Somerset. Bejoved husband of Maryusrite, dear father and grandfather. Funeral Service to take places at Yeovil Crematorium on Fabruary 9th at 10 am.

SMITH - Olive Vera of Radieti. Herts. on 2nd February. Aged 90, Private burial at Christchurch Cenestery at 2 pm to be followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at the United Free Church. Station Road. Radiett at 2.50 pm on Friday 9th February. Family flowers only. Douadons to Astima Research or Municiple Scierosis.

DEATHS SYME - William C. 29th July 1940 - 27th December 1998. Campbell died on 27th December and was buried in Lamparote on 12th January 1996. A Memorial Service will take place on 21st February 1996 at 2.30 pm. at St Mathews Church, St Petersburgh Place. London W2. Sadly missed by all of his family and friends.

TAYLOR - On January 24th, suddenly whilst abroad. John, aged 35 years, dearly beloved son of Leonard and Mary, brother of William and Sarah and perfeer in the family firm of LTF Motors. Funeral Service and Committed at Whitchon Parish Church. Rotherham. on Friday February 9th al. 11am. All danguirles to Funeral Officers GE, Foes & Company, at 0.142 259-

WEINNER - Ou Fabruary 2nd
1996, at her home in
Painswick Choocestarshine.
Barbte, aged 86 years,
beloved mother of Toni and
Stephanie and grandmother
of Toni, Patrick Charlotte.
Kalle, Penny and Lory. The
fulteral service will lake
place at 2 pm on Monday
February 12th at 8 Mary's
Church, Painswick, Family
flowers only by request but
donations in fieu may be
made to The Royal National
Institute for the Raind c/o
Selin Smith & Co. Lit. 74
Prestbury
Royal.

WHITE - James (Jimmy). Died 24th January 1996, will be fouldy remembered by its daughter Leab White-Dodo.

WINTON - Lottle, deatly loved by brothers Nicky and Bobby and by her very close friend Dorothy Hamerian, died beschildty on February 4th affat a short illness, Funeral at 2.16 pm on Tuesday, February 13th at the East Chapel, Golders Green Green transfortun, Hoopians Will I Empth (meary fane Will I Empth (meary Green Cramborton, Hoop Lane, NW11, Family flowers only please, but domnitons if desired to Oxfain, 120 Golden Green Road, NW11, SMP.

MEMORIAL SERVICES LOUDON - Arme. A Memorial Service will be held at the Brompton Oratory, London, at 11 am on Friday 16th Pobruary 1996.

FAX: 0171 481 9313 THANKSGIVING SERVICES

BAM - A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Ebsbath, Lady Ram, will be held at St Wyllow's Church Lanteglos-by-Fowey. or Saturday 24th February 1996 at 12 noon. FLATSHARE

BATTERSEA PARK Specious flat to share with 1 other woman 30+. 6570 pcm, Q171 605 9961 (Day) Sin Chavia Chury Street, Share 2 bedroom fornished fast, good views, 2 mins Victoria station, Sitting room, jotchem, beth-room, clockroom, m/s prote-tional, September preferat, £125 per excl. C171 5246276. SELERAVIA SWI. LITE RECORD EVERIBBLE HOW. E180 PW. Enq OI 428 6632222 SEVENS. CHELGEA/FULHAM 1 mm Pol-mon Brondway tobe. Indusy townshouse, suit strot, N/6, be day begin, off at play, gdn, £125 per (begi, Cl71, 610, 9663.

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SWIB Mon-Pri. Large bedatt Plains gdt., puls agdt, Prof. prof. nais. Glore E. Putney tabe. 250 pv., Tet. 0171 725000200007 or 0181 6700074(eve). Why Mon-Fri bright dol cm with TV phone in hex poin mais, suit grof. All pood come & Commer. £100pw fac. G171 368 1469. We n/s. 20-30 to share base, fill 20 quiet res square, then bedres, close shops, transport, film 620 per lec 0181 5469064

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MANUAL TO THE STATE OF THE STAT



OBITUARIES

BRIGADIER DONALD NOTT

Brigadier Donald Nott. DSO, OBE, MC and Bar died on February 5 aged 87. He was born on April 27, 1908.

ALTHOUGH he was a professional soldier to his fingertips, no part of Denald Nott's adventurous career is more memorable than the part he played in General Orde Wingate's unconventional campaign to restore Emperor Haile Selassie to the throne of Ethiopia. Nott joined Wingate's Gideon Force, with which the explorer Wilfred Thesiger was already serving, in late 1940. The force comprised a handful of British regulars, Abyssinian patriots and a Sudanese battalion. Officially, Nott was Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster General, and at that moment the force's only staff officer. But Wingate had little time for staff work

Having crossed the Egyptian fron-tier on January 20, 1941, with the Emperor and his bodyguards, Wingate railied the Gojjam chieftains and their tribesmen in support of Gideon-Force and drove Colonel Maraventano's Italians south-eastwards, reaching the near bank of the

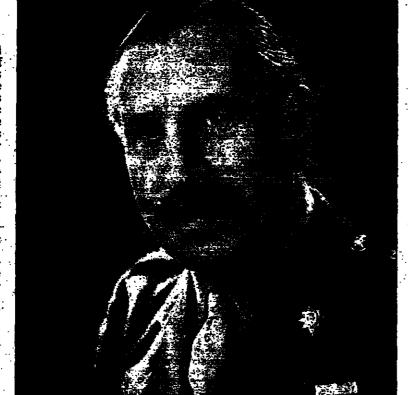
Blue Nile by April 4.

He then put Nort in command of a small force of British regulars with instructions to pursue the Italian 3rd and 19th Brigades towards the Ethiopian capital 60 miles away. With only a few of the patriots and local tribesmen to supplement his group, which was just 130 strong. Nort was counterflacked on May 3 by an Italian brigade, well supported by artillery: But coolness and professional training paid off. The skilful siting of his automatic weapons inflicted heavy

casualties on the Italians and Nott beat

back the attack without undue loss. Joined by Wingate and the Emperor shortly afterwards. Not accompanied them on the final dash to Addis Ababa. In defiance of orders from his commander-in-chief, General Sir Alan Cunningham, Wingate conducted Haile Selassie into the capital on May 5 at the head of the remnants of his patriot battalion. Subsequently, Nott conducted negotiations on Wingate's behalf for the concentration and surrender of Maraventano's troops at Fiche, 50

miles to the north. Nott was mentioned in dispatches and awarded the DSO for his skill and courage in defeating the numerically superior Italian force and the Haile lassie Military Medal for his part in the restoration of the Emperor. He had



Cross for gallant conduct and inspiring leadership in command of a small force engaging a terrorist band at Bani Na'il near Hebron, during the second Arab revolt in Palestine in 1938.

On conclusion of the campaign in. Ethiopia, Nott rejoined the 1st Battalion The Worcestershire Regiment, by then in the Western Desert. During what Basil Liddell Hart described as "Rommel's High Tide" — the mid-1942 German assault on the British held Gazala Line - Nott was commanding D Company 1st Worcesters on Point 187, south of Acroma between the vital "Knightsbridge" road junction and Tobruk on the coast road.

The battalion was attacked by a German force of 60 tanks supported by artillery and lorried infantry at 0800 already received his first Military hours on June 14. D Company bore the for the remainder of it, except for five

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after escaping from the Fontanellato PoW camp near Parma in 1943. Together with two companions, he trekked southwards, begging or stealing food and sleeping in woods to avoid the Fascist militia, the Carabinieri and the Germans. When such news as could be got from peasants who had heard BBC broadcasts indicated the slow pace of

months on the run in the Apennines

the Allied advance northwards, the group decided to cross the mountain range and attempt to acquire a boat on the Adrianic coast. After a 2,000ft climb and descent, the party spent seven weeks in a deserted cabin preparing for their intended voyage. When they were ready and had negotiated for a boat to be provided, the three were betrayed and recaptured at the water's edge on February 10, 1944.

After release in 1945, Nott briefly commanded the 9th Worcesters and later the Officer Cadet School at Eaton Hall, responsible for training National Service officers. He was appointed to command 4th (Uganda) Banalion King's African Rifles in Kenya during the Mau Mau campaign. Prompt return of his battalion to Uganda and his personal calm and that of his troops did much to defuse a tense local situation when Kabaka Mutesa II was exiled in 1953. At the end of his period of command, he was appointed OBE and promoted to command 158 Infantry Brigade of the Territorial Army at Lichfield.

After retirement from the Army in 1960 he served as Assistant Civil Defence Officer for Worcestershire. He was Colonel of his Regiment from 1961 to 1967 and appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Worcestershire in 1963.

Donald Harley Nott was born in Leominster, Herefordshire, on April 27, 1908. His father enlisted at the age of 42 at the outset of the First World War and died at Gallipoli. Nott was educated at Marlborough College and at Sandhurst and commissioned into The Worcestershire Regiment in 1928. He served with his regiment in the Army of the Rhine, in Malta, China and India before accompanying the 1st Battalion to Palestine in 1938. He played rugby for the Army in 1929 and 1930 and was in the Army Hundred at Bisley. He also represented Devon and Kent at rugby and played hockey for Berkshire and Herefordshire.

He was twice married to Eve Harber in 1933 and to Elfride Kahler in 1947. He is survived by his second wife, a daughter of his first marriage and by a son and daughter of the second.

SIR ARCHIBALD ROSS

Sir Archibald Ross, KCMG, former Ambassador to Portugal and to Sweden, died on January 25 aged 84. He was born on October 12, 1931.

EVEN in his heyday 30 years

ago, Archibald Ross seemed the quintessence of the old school of diplomacy. Today he would have seemed a dinosaur of the trade. But he brought to every post he occupied a penetrating mind, a sense of duty, and quiet kindness to those around him. Archibald David Manisty Ross was the son of a father who was a member of the Indian Civil Service and a mother who had that service in her blood. A conventional education at Winchester and New College led him to an Oxford double first, the Gaisford Prize for Greek verse and a travelling fellowship. When he passed top into the Foreign Service in 1936 he brought to it a trained and first-class mind and a willingness to learn its arcane ways. His first posting was to Berlin in that worst of all years, 1939. He was transferred to Stockholm when war broke out and staved there through most of it. Tours in the Foreign Office and at Tehran followed, and at the age of 39 he was promoted to head the Eastern Department of the Foreign Office at a time

He brought to this job, as to everything he did, a measured and formal manner which stood him in good stead when others were wilting under pressure, but in which some of his colleagues detected even then rather too much of oldworld diplomacy. The job of minister in Rome which followed was an easier one, but three years later Ross was back in London as an assistant under-secretary with responsi-

of chaos and escalating threats

to Britain's oil interests in

bilities for the Middle East. It was 1956, that annus horribilis for Britain, which saw the Suez crisis and the collapse of Britain's old pos-



lowed. It was also a year in which convention went out of the Foreign Office window. Within, Ross held fast to the old verities of truth, fairness and straightforwardness, and contributed much to the rebuilding of trust between Brit-

ons and Arabs. In 1961 Ross got his first ambassadorial appointment, to Lisbon. He stayed there five years, before transferring to Stockholm, where he had in effect begun and was to end his overseas career. Both missions were places that called for the decorum and calm judgment which were Ross's trademark and he conducted them well, but neither was of a weight to test his intellect and

diplomatic skill to the full.

He was much helped in

he had married in 1939, brought to their social responsibilities. He retired in 1971. calm and contented, but at the end of a career that had turned out to be less glittering than he might have expected when he pined it, heaped with academhonour and full of diplomatpromise, 35 years before.

Ross had been appointed KCMG on his posting to Lisbon. In retirement, he took the chair of a succession of British subsidiaries of Swedish companies, and he and his wife, who gave herself generously to good works, remained socially very active through a long old age. She survives him together with a son and a daughter, one son having predeceased him.

THE RIGHT REV VERNON NICHOLLS

The Right Rev Verson Nicholis, Bishop of dor and Mag, 197483, lied on February 2 aged 78. He was born on September 3, 1917.

THE only diocese within the nestic Church of England Thich is not eligible for a seat in the House of Lords, the offshore see of Sodor and Man has not always been an easy one to fill. But in 1974 the Crown made a shrewd choice when it selected the then Archdeacon of Birmingham to take charge of the smallest of tially a man's man - a quality

The Control of the Control

spent the previous 18 years in before in 1967 irmingham. He belonged, however, to Birminghām.

the Evangelical tradition which has always tended to be supported by the second oldest diocese of the Church of England. Even more important than that, he was essen-

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the C of Es. 44 efficeses. At much appreciated in the re-that stage Vernon, Nicholls bust atmosphere of Manx had had to experience of public life it was wholly Manx life indeed he had typical of him that when typical of him that, when sitting on the Legislative the Midlands, where he had Council (the Upper House of made a great impact as vicar. Tynwald in which the bishop and rural dean of Walsall has a seat as of constitutional right, he should, without he tation, have opposed a Bill seeking to end the use of the birch on the island. Such support of corporal punishment might well have put him at odds with the majority liberal opinion on the episco-pal bench; but on the island itself, and even among the

Vernon Sampson Nicholls was born in Cornwall and was educated at Truro School. From there he went to Dur-He was ordained in 1941

brunt of three successive attacks,

during the first of which the enemy

penetrated Notes position far enough

to begin clearing his defensive mines.

He forced the enemy to withdraw a second time and was still inflicting

heavy casualties on the attacking

infantry as German armour began to

overrun his trenches in the third attack

just before last light, when he was

ordered to withdraw. He was awarded

an immediate bar to his Military Cross

for the Gazala action.

When General Ritchie ordered the

Gazala Line to be abandoned, the 1st Worcesters withdrew into nearby To-

bruk, where they were taken prisoner

when Rommel captured the fortress a

week later. After starting the war so

brilliantly. Nott was to be a prisoner

ham University and then on to Chitton Theological College. to a curacy in the Bristol diocese and then to one in his native Cornwall. In 1944 he volunteered as a chaplain, remaining with the Army until he was appointed vicar of Meopham in Kent in 1946. In the Low Church Rochester diocese he soon made a signifi-

clergy, it merely served to cant mark — becoming rural underline his bona fides. dean of Cobham in 1954 and even serving (as an indepen-dent) on the Strood Rural District Council.

The proof that he was regarded as a potential church leader came in 1956 when he Walsali by the Bishop of Lichfield of the day, A. S. Reeve. This was a tough assignment but still a potentially influential one. The town had too many churches and it fell to Nicholls to rationalise the structure of the Anglican ministry within it. This he did successfully - demonstrating that he possessed both financial and administrative gifts, something which no doubt played its part in Bishop J. L. Wilson's decision to offer him the archdeaconry of Birmingham in 1967.

This was another challenging job but Nicholls once again proved more than equal to it. In addition to his archidiaconal responsibilities he became co-ordinating officer for Christian Stewardship within the Birmingham diocese as well as playing a leading part in the building of churches and schools, particularly on the new housing estates of the 1960s and the 1970s.

The summons to become Bishop of Sodor and Man was perhaps an unexpected one for a man whose reputation had largely been made in an area involving the Church and the inner city. But on his arrival in the Isle of Man Nicholls made it clear that he was not prepared to preside over a feudal backwater. Provoking a measure of controversy, he announced that he was not proposing to live in the historic episcopal palace — Bishop's Court at Kirk Michael - and

THE NEW POPE.

CARDINAL RATTI ELECTED.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROME, FEB. 0. Cardinal Ratti, Archbishop of Milan, has

been elected Pope. He takes the name of Pius

About 20 minutes after Cardinal Risleti

made the announcement of the election of

Cardinal Ratti the latter appeared on the outer balcony of St. Peter's overlooking the Square and blessed the crowd of people assembled there. This is the first time that a Pope has appeared in public since 1870, and is a departure from the practice of the Popes

elected since that date, who gave their blessing

within the basilica, and as such is not without

This morning the crowd was much smaller

than yesterday, partly because everyone had come to the conclusion that the Conclave was

going to await the arrival of at least one of the

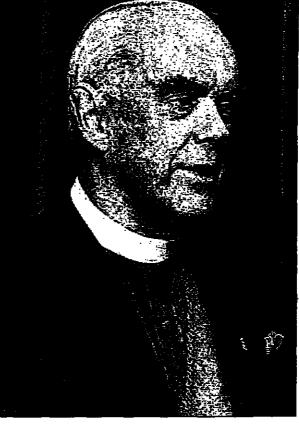
three North American Cardinals and partly

because the skies were grey and heavy with rain. The great Square was covered with umbrellas like great black toadstools. But the patience of the people was rewarded on this occasion, for suddenly, at 11.35, a small wisp of

smoke came from the chimney. The colour could not be distinguished, but there was so

political significance.

and the second of the second o



for some time, before a house was bought for him in Douglas, occupied a perfectly ordi-

nary residence in Ramsey. To the affairs of the Manx diocese he brought the same brisk air of efficiency that had characterised his way of doing things in both Birmingham and Walsall. More at home with Donald Coggan than he could ever have been with Michael Ramsey, he nevertheless was not notable for the part he played in the wider counsels of the Church of England. Any Bishop of Sodor and Man tends to feel isolated and, in Nicholls's case, this tendency was, if anything, highlighted by his appearing, even by the 1970s, a slightly old-fashioned figure. It was not just a question of his support for corporal punishment (though he was perhaps unwise to return to this topic in his diocesan newsletter. thereby ensuring that his views were much quoted in the secular press). Also slightly suspect, at least by the days of

Robert Runcie, was his pride

in his association with Free-

masonry, of which in his retirement he became Grand Master of the Warwickshire Province. But the greatest shadow that

hung over his episcopate was undoubtedly a sad business that surfaced some years after light that in 1982 the bishop, while still in office, had removed £100,000 from the account he kept at the Isle of Man Savings and Investment Bank just weeks before it went into liquidation.

When this was disclosed, it naturally caused fury to the thousands of other investors who had lost all their money. Bishop Nicholls had, in fact, a convincing answer in that at the time he was engaged in the search for a retirement home, which he eventually found in Stratford-upon-Avon. But he certainly did not help to banish the doubts that he must have had a private tip-off by muddling dates and making claims - such as that he had moved his money to Bardays in order to get a better rate of interest" - that later came under challenge. inevitably anti-clericalism raised its head in the wake of this controversy, with one Manx MP sneeringly demanding to know what "divine guidance" or "light from above" had saved the bishop from losing all his savings, as had most of his constituents.

The whole episode greatly distressed Vernon Nicholls, who otherwise spent a very fruitful retirement as an Assistant Bishop in the Coventry diocese, where his personality and contribution were highly valued. He is survived by his wife Phyllis, whom he married in 1943, and by a daughter

and a son.

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ON THIS DAY

February 7, 1922 **经影響的**

In an era when the Pope travels widely throughout the world it makes strange reading that until Cardinal Ratti's election no Pope had been seen in public

for more than 50 years. fittle of it that the cry went up, "The Pope is made. We have our Pope," and a few moments later there appeared on one of the terraces of the Vatican in a part of the building which was reserved for the Conclave a row of priests.

under umbrellas . . The Sacristans signalled for silence and the Cardinal's voice rang out over the Square. " I announce you great joy. We have a Pope," and then followed the name of Cardinal Rati. Owing to the height of the building there was serious confusion, for some of the listeners thought that Cardinal Tacci and not Cardinal

Ratti had been made Pope, with the result that

the newspapers brought out special editions announcing Cardinal Tacci's election, and one had the entraordinary speciacle of people arguing violently over the identity of the Pope and supporting their arguments with different announcements in different editions of the same newspaper.

But then came a great surprise. The iron gates of St. Peter's were not flung wide to admit the people for the traditional blessing of the new Pope, and the glass door of the outer balcony remained open. Presently the Pope himself appeared on the balcony, followed by many of the Cardinals. No man, whatever his creed, could fail to be

thrilled by the sight of the crowd standing there hatless in the rain while the Pope gave Rome and the world his first Papal blessing. The utterance of the blessing from the outer balcony has caused such a sensation that already an official statement has been issued modifying its effect. In it the Marshal of the Conclave states that the new Pope had "given his blessing from the external balcony with particular intention that the blessing itself shall be not only to those present in the Piazza di S. Pietro, not only to Rome and to Italy, but to all nations and peoples, and that it may bring to everybody the wish and the announcement of that universal peace we all desire."

Court of Appeal

Collateral attack on conviction

Before Sir Thomas Bingham. Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice

Budgment February 51 A claim brought by an intending plaintiff against his former solicitors, for alleged negligence in the preparation of his defence to a criminal charge of which he had been convicted, amounted to a collateral attack on the decision in

the criminal proceedings. Since he had been afforded a full opportunity to challenge the criminal charge within those proceedings, and since there was no fresh evidence of so compelling a nature as entirely to alter the aspect of the case, the general rule of public policy prevailed that such a claim was an abuse of the process of the

The Court of Appeal so held. dismissing an appeal by Chris-topher Smith from Mr Justice Potter (1995) 3 All ER 226) who determined, as a preliminary is-sue, that his claim could not proceed against the defendant, Julian Linskill, practising as Julian Linskill & Co, for damages for negligence and breach of contract in the preparation of his defence to nal charge of aggravated

Mr Smith had pleaded not guilty but had been convicted at Mold Crown Court in 1984 and sentenced to seven years impisonment. His application for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, had been refused on paper by the judge and on renewal before the full

Mr Andrew Nicol, OC and Mr Gavin Millar for Mr Smith: Mr Guy Mansfield, QC and Mr Andrew Sander for the defendant

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the leading modern authority on abuse of process in cases such as the present was Hunter v Chief Constable of the West Midlands Police (1982) AC 529, 541) where Lord Diplock had regarded as the governing rule on

That the abuse of process in such a case was the initiation of proceedings in a court of justice for the purpose of mounting a collat-eral attack on a final decision against the intending plaintiff which had been made by another court of competent jurisdiction in previous proceedings in which the intending plaintiff had had a full opportunity of contesting the de-cision in the court by which it had

His Lordship said that Mr Smith had certainly initiated the conviction in the crown court amounted to a final decision by a court of competent jurisdiction in

previous proceedings against him. The thrust of his case in the esent proceedings was that if his criminal defence had been handled with proper care he would not, and should not have been convicted. Thus the soundness or otherwise of his conviction was an issue at the heart of the present proceedings.

Were he to recover substantial damages it could only be on the hasis that he should not have been convicted. Even if he established more than nominal damages if the court were to conclude that, even if his case had been handled with proper care, he would still have

It followed that the present eral attack on the decision of the

It was not the intention of the House of Lords in Hunter's case to lay down an inflexible rule to be applied willy-nilly to all cases hich might arguably be said to

Lord Diplock had been at pains to emphasise the need for flexibil-ity and the exercise of judgment: see Walpole v Partridge & Wilson ([1994] QB 106, 116) per Lord Justice Ralph Gibson, that there were at least exceptions to the principle.

it was none the less noteworthy that in McIlkenny v Chief Con-stable of the West Midlands (1980) QB 283, 333) Lord Justice Goff, whose judgment was unvedly approved by the House of Lords, expressed the opinion that to allow relitigation of an issue which had previously been the subject of final decision "must prima facie be an abuse of the privilege of the court"

The court rejected Mr Nicol's argument that Mr Smith had not had a full opportunity of contesting the decision in the first court because the defendant's neeligence had prevented him from deploying his full case.

The court considered that that argument was founded on a minsunderstanding of what Lord Diplock had meant. It was plain from his speech in Hunter (at p542) that he was giving his ruling with reference to both civil and criminal

It was evident in civil cases particularly that a party might lack any opportunity to resist a hostile claim, as where judgment was entered against him for pro-cedural default, or might lack a full dement was eiven against him

The court understood Lord Diplock to have been intending to

collateral attack on a decision made against him in such

Having reviewed the opportunity afforded to Mr Smith in the handling of his defence and anpeal, including the settling of grounds of appeal which drew attention to some at least of his complaints about his solicitor's handling of the case, the court concluded that, even if it were true that valid criticism could have been made, it was impossible to hold that he had lacked a full

opportunity to contest the charge. Were that the correct meaning of the rule, then the rule itself would he virtually meaningless, since it was hard to imagine a case where find some plausible ground on which to criticise his solicitor's reparation of the defence.

The court also rejected Mr distinguish Hunter's case, that the proceedings were not an abuse of process because it had not heen found that Mr Smith's real purpose was to attack his conviction; his only and genuine purpose being to recover damages for

It was true that Lord Diplock had (at p541) attached considerable significance to the plaintiff's ulterior purpose in that case. The court had no doubt but that

the existence of such an ulterior purpose provided a strong and additional ground for holding proceedings to be an abuse. But such an ulterior purpose was not, in its judgment, a nec-essary ingredient of abuse: see

Walpole's case (at pl20). The rule rested on public policy the basis of which was the undestrable effect of relitigating issues such as the The court could not see how those undesirable effects were mitigated by the motive of the

intending plaintiff to recover damages rather than simply to establish the unsoundness of the earlier decision. It was plain from Hunter's case (at p545), that the existence at the commencement of the civil action

criminal trial might justify making an exception to the general rule. It was also plain that the test to be met by such evidence was stricter than the ordinary Court of Appeal test: see Ladd v Marshall ([1954] 1 WLR 1489, 1491. It had to be such as "entirely changes the aspect of the case": see Phosphate ewage Co Ltd v Molleson ((1879) 4 App Cas 801, 814) and Hunter v Chief Constable of West Midlands

Police ([1982] AC \$29, 545).

The court referred to evidence said by Mr Nicol to fall within that test and concluded that there was none which brought Mr Smith preserve a party's right to make a

within measurable distance of satisfying it.

هكذاف الدعل

The main considerations of public policy which underlay the existing rule were threefold:

I The affront to any coherent system of justice which had necessarily to arise if there subsisted two final but inconsistent decisions of courts of competent jurisdiction.

Such would be the case here if there were subsisting decisions of crown court, that Mr Smith beyond reasonable doubt guilty of aggravated burglary and, e civil court, that if his defence had been properly prepared he-would and should have been

No reasonable observer could view that outcome with

The court could not shut its eyes to the possibility that a criminal defendant might be wrongly con-victed, perhaps because his defence had been ineptly prepared or conducted.

two possible solutions; one, to relax the present restraint on seeking to establish the injustice by civil action; the second, which had been favoured over the past century was to ensure that in appropriate cases the conviction could itself be reviewed: by giving a right of fresh evidence on appeal; by empowering the appellate court to order a new trial; by giving the Home Secretary power to refer a case back to the Court of Appeal; and by proposals to establish a

new review body. 2 The virtual impossibility of fairly re-trying at a later date the issue before the court on the earlier

3 The importance of finality in litigation. The present rule had been seen by some as a rule invented by judges to protect their professional brethren. It was of course true that no one

welcomed a negligence claim against him; but the maxim "interest reipublicae ut finis sit litium" was not invented by English judges, and nothing, on one view, could better serve the personal interests of the legal profession than endless relitigation of the same issues. If as was sug-gested in Bleak House The one great principle of English law is, to business for itself there could be no better way of doing so. But the view had long been taken that a final decision should. save in special circumstances, be final. Those broad considerations of public policy remained compel ling. Even if it were open to the court to vary the general rule propounded in the Hunter case, it would not feel justified in doing so. Solicitors: Strain Keville & Co;

Weightman Rutherford, Liverpool.

Planning enforcement action

William Boyer (Transport) Ltd v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another

Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith. Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Roch

[Judgment February 6] The meaning of enforcement action "taken or purported to [have] take[n]" within the meaning of section 171B(4)(b) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as inserted by section 4 of the Planing and Compens ution Act 1991, within the previous four years had to be action, or purported action, which itself was valid under the ten-year provisions in section, 1718(3), or which was within the

four-year extension after such a notice given by section 171B(4)(b). The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing an appeal brought by the Secretary of State for the Environment from the decision of Mr Jeremy Sullivan. QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, on November 22, 1994, holding that wo enforcement notices served by Hounslow London Borough Coun-cil were out of time and should be

Mr Richard Drabble, QC and Mr Ian Albutt for the secretary of state, Mr Duncan Ouseley, QC and Mr Timothy Corner for William Boyer (Transport) Ltd.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS, said that the enforcement notices related to alleged breaches of plan-ning controls which commenced after the end of 1963 but before July

. 1982. The latter was relevant date if the ten-year limitation period and associated provisions introduced by the Planning and Compensation Act 199L

The Planning and Compensation Act 1991 (Commencement No 5 Transitional Provisions) Order (SI 1991 No 2905) introduced transitional provisions which were relied upon in the present case. Article 5(2) made reference to section 171B(4)(b) of the 1991 Act, which permitted the issue of a further enforcement notice within

a period of four years following an

earlier notice, if the first notice proved invalid or was withdrawn. The complication regarding fur-ther notices lay at the heart of the present case, because both the notices in question were further notices issued on August 19, 1993, after earlier notices which were issued on July 24, 1992, three days ceased to have effect, were

Mr Drabble submitted that the t notices alleging breaches ich occurred after the end of 1963 were valid under the transi-tional provisions because the old time limit applied, and that further notices were issued within the four-year extension period permit-ted by section 1718(4)(6).

Mr Ouseley contended that the subsection did not permit the

extension, except in relation to breaches which occurred within the ten-year period before the first notices were issued. Accordingly, he submitted that the cut-off date was July 24, 1982, ten years before

Once section 1718 came into force the ten year time limit became mandatory, subject only to the provisions of subsection 4 which provided for further enforcement action when the local planning authority had taken or purported to take enforcement action during the preceding four

In his Lordship's judgment, that could only mean that the previous action was within the time limits specified in section 174B itself. I that was not the meaning, then it would be open to the authority to issue a first potice out of time, withdraw it and issue a further notice relying of subsection 4.

That could not be right, and his Lordship would hold that enforcement action Taken or purported to be taken" within the previous four years had so be action, or purported action, which itself valid under the ten-year provisions in subsection 3, or which was within the four-year extension after such a notice given by

ubsection 4(b), Thus the further notices in the esent case were not permi subsection 4(b) because the first notices were outside the ten-year period. So the question whether they were validated, or prevented from being out of time. by reason of the trans ons in article 5 of the 1991

Article S(I)(b) validated the first notices, nothing in section 171B(3) prevented an enforcement notice from being issued in respect of a breach after the end of 1963. So the

4(b) or the terms of article 5 itself, permitted further enforcements of the way the original notice was valid, in the sense of not being time barred, not under section 1718 but

under article 5. His Lordship would hold not." because, for the reason given above, section 171B(4)(b) did not permit further enforcement action unless the original nonce was in time under the provisions of that

The deputy judge placed emphasis on the policy objectives of the amending provisions of the 1991 Act, and like him his Lordship would regard them as supporting his conclusion that subsection 4(b) did not permit a further notice in the circumstances of the case. But his Lordship would also accept Mr. Drabble's submission that that consideration was not determinative of the correct interpretation of the statutory provisions.

Mr Drabble submitted, finally, that the question whether the further notices were permitted under subsection 4(b) depended upon the validity of the original notice. His Lordship agreed. ... But in his Lordship's judgment

the subsection operated only when the original notices were not time barred under the provisions of subsection 3, that is, the ten-year limit, and in the present case, they were. Accordingly, the appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Roch delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Stuart-Smith agreed. Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor: Bird & Lovibond, Uxbridge.

No false imprisonment case after remand

Order.

Lancashire Constabulary

Before Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Ward and Sir Ralph.

[Judgment January 25]

Actions against the police for false imprisonment and breach of statutory duty could not be taken by a detainee for alleged unnecessary detention after he had been remanded to a police station under section 128(7) of the Magistrates Courts Act 1980, as amended by Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the defen-dant, the Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary, against the decision of Mr Recorder Morris at Preston County Court on Septem-Francis Charles Hyland, could bring an action against him for false imprisonment and breach of statutory duty. The chief constable's appeal against the decision to give the plaintiff leave to amend

his particulars of claim to include a claim for malicious process was

In August 1988 the plaintiff was arrested and charged with going equipped for theft. He was renanded to a police station by 128(7) of the 1980 Act in order that inquiries into other offences could be made. He was released three

The plaintiff was subsequently acquitted. He allessed that through out the three day period there had not been a need for his detention to inquire into other offences... Section 128 of the 1980 Act, as

mended, provides: "In A magistrates' court having power to remand a person in custody may, if the remand is for a period not exceeding three clear days, commit him to detention at a police station.

"(8) Where a person is committed to detention at a police station under subsection (7) above -- (a) he shall not be kept in such detention unless there is a need for him to be so detained for the purposes of inquiries into other offences; (b) if kept in such detention, he shall be brought back before the magistrates' court which committed him as soon as that need ceases... Mr David T. Eccles for the chief constable: Mr Charles Davey for the plaintiff.

SIR RALPH GIBSON said that the chief constable had argued that: no action for false imprisonment lay against the police because ntion in a police station under section 128(7) was the consequence of a judicial act, and depended on the refusal of bail. The order dealt only with the place and not the fact of detention. If the police acted improperly the remedy was an

action for malicious process In his Lordship's judgment, section 128(7) did not apply to a person who was otherwise to be leased on bail. If the police neglected to comply promptly with the provisions of section 128(8) the detention was not false imprisonment at common law.

the provisions of section 128 were of a regulatory character and directed to the proceedings of the strates' court.

His Lordship could see nothing to indicate any intention that a person should have a civil right to nages for a breach of section

That did not mean that a person had no remedy if those provisions were breached; he could apply to the High Court for bail or take an action for malicious process. Land Justice Staughton and Lord Justice Ward gave concurring

Solicitors: Mr G. A. Johnson; Preston: Linskills, Liverpool.

● English cases in The Times Law Report are supplied by barristers of the Incorporated Council of Law Reporting for England and Wales. 3 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3XN: Tel 0171 831

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Even if you believe passionately in a free press, you are not obliged to become a martyr to a journalist in pursuit of a story

question dogs The House, the muchpraised series on the Opera House with two weeks still to run on BBC2. How could Jeremy Isaacs, the general director and a man who knows a thing or two about television, let the candid cameras in to wander about, with results that could

harm his reputation and the House's subsidy? As an Isaacs fan, who believes that his contribution to British cultural life — the famed World At War series, the creation of Channel 4 - has been insufficiently rewarded (where is his knight-hood?), I'm sure the answer is a surfeit of fairness. If you believe in the public's right to know what goes on in public institutions, it

seems only right to open the doors. Right, perhaps, but not essen-tial. There is no duty, even for champions of the free press, to talk to the press - just as there is no need to pay more tax than you owe.

You have the right to remain silent

quire martyrdom.

Mr Isaacs could justifiably have refused the series on the same principle by which barristers never ask a witness a question to which they do not know the answer. The risk to those you represent is too great. Fly-on-thewall documentaries, in particular, have given their programme-makers an opportunity to be brilliant at the subject's expense. Remember

The Family? In the end, Mr Isaacs's trust may be proved right. The Royal Opera House, as in last night's brilliant episode showing the parallei ballets of young dancers competing and trade unionists negotiating, emerges as a micro-cosm of British life. Many who never go near the place will end up

invitation, however, would do better to take the advice of that sage Californian, Nancy Reagan, and just say no.

To do so, though, is not without risk. As a journalist, I spend my days asking people, often strang-ers, to supply information for a work-in-progress which, they know, is unlikely to show them as they see themselves. I am continually grateful that they do answer my questions and return my calls. I am especially grateful to press officers in large organisations, who know that only a novice would stoop to the crude question, which no self-respecting journalist would answer: What sort of line is your article going to take?"

But there is a lot of anti-press grievance about - well short of



MADDOX

the Press Complaints Commission, but which could be avoided with a few simple precautions. Don't ramble on and on, for example, and then complain that you have been quoted out of context"; all quotes are out of

Anyone agreeing to give an

are certain specialists in bitchiness against whom no one wins. Another good rule - Maeve Binchy, the Irish novelist, says Gore Vidal passed it on to her - "never let them interview you at home because they'll interview your house". The peeling paint on the door, the unwashed cat-dish, the personal telephone call that arrives in the middle of the interview - all become fair game to the iournalist invited over the threshold. Neutral territory, such as a restaurant, is safer but only if any

is rules out in advance. "She toyed with her tripe à la mode de Caen as she reflected. . . " is very voguish in journalism.

mention of what is eaten or drunk

A lot of experts reel in shock from having their brains picked. They should learn to be on guard

Pog was introduced

this latest play-ground craze has swept the country,

captivating five to 11-

girls alike. Now these little tiddly-

wink-like tokens

have become the

subject of a market-

ing war between Britain's snack com-

begins: "We're preparing a programme on astrobotany and wonder if you can spare a few minutes? This is how a researcher extracts someone's lifetime knowledge without issuing an invitation to appear on the programme.

hrewdly, the Committee for Public Understanding of Science (Copus), keeps a list of scientific experts prepared to talk quickly and clearly to the press. Other kinds of expert should consider such tactics as asking for a modest consultancy fee, offering to write an article themselves, or, at least, ask that the quotations to be attributed to them be read back. If the result is still infuriating, a letter to the editor or ombudsman is worth doing. Even if it does not get

bad quarter of an hour.

The ordinary citizen who picks up the telephone and finds the press on the line should take extreme care. Some tips. On no account be flattered. Find out to whom you are speaking. Don't answer more than you are asked. If you have something you really want in the press, ring the paper of your choice and ask who is covering the story. If you really don't want to talk, ask when the deadline is, and call back ten minutes before it. And don't say "off the record" halfway through, or worse, slalom in and out of confidentiality so that neither of you knows where you are.

Above all, remember you are furnishing meat for someone else's salami. There's no shame in not contributing. When you hear, as on Monday's Newsnight, "British Gas refused to comment on the FT's story", did you feel embarrassed for British Gas? Of course not. Silence is often the better part of PR.

Extracting the farce from political drama

Alexandra Frean on the Scott inquiry, coming to television

screens soon

f the Government thought that television would confine its coverage of Sir Richard Scott's much-delayed report into the arms-to-Iraq affair to long-winded news and current affairs programmes, it is going to be sorely disappointed.

Both the BBC and Channel 4 have turned the inquiry, which contained more dramatic and amusing one-liners than most sit-coms, into novel forms of drama and comedy that bridge the worlds of current affairs and light

entertainment. Channel 4 has cleared its schedules late this Saturday evening to make way for a two-hour 15-minute satirical extravaganza of sketches and reconstructions of the most The programme, Scott of the Arms Antics, will be an chored by Sheena McDonald and will feature the satirist Rory Bremner and the investigative journalist Paul Foot.

Rory Bremner believes that broadcasters have to tread a fine line in mixing satire and current affairs. There is a danger that it could become too facetious and smug. I don't want John Major to dismiss it as a lot of smart people distorting the truth — that, after all, is what they have been doing," he says.

The way to avoid this, Mr Bremner says, is through thorough research - he spent 18 days wading through transcripts of the Scott inquiry and careful, "light-touch"

scripting. A week later, on Sunday February 18, the BBC is to screen Half the Picture, a film reconstruction of the Scott inquiry starting Sylvia Syms as-Baroness Thatcher and Michael Stroud as Sir Richard Scott. The film is based on the Tricycle Theatre production of the play by the dramatist John McGrath and the journalist Richard Norton-Taylor. For broadcasters, Scott is a



Jan Chappell, Sylvia Syms and Michael Stroud in Half the Picture, the BBC's reconstruction of the Scott inquiry

gift. Rarely has an opportunity presented itself to television to explore the machinations of government in such a dramatic and entertaining way. What script writer would have dared to invent John Major's comment to the inquiry. "One of the charges at the time, of course, was that in some way I must have known - because I had been the Chancellor, because I had been Foreign Secretary, because I had been Prime Minister - what was

going on"? When a civil servant was challenged by Sir Richard that a statement in a document was hink", who could have invented the answer, "As a basic principle - but not necessarily

As Mr McGrath, co-writer and producer of Half The Picture, says: "You couldn't make it up. And if you did, nobody would believe it." senior commissioning editor

David Lloyd, Channel 4's of news and current affairs, who commissioned Scott of the Arms Antics, believes that

that broadcasters have a duty to give it special treatment and invent new formats for it. The event demands it. What we are trying to say is 'don't imagine that this is just about arms trading, it is also about the

way government runs this country," he says.
Mr Lloyd hopes that the programme will reach beyond the core current affairs audience. I want viewers to come away from it with an extremely clear idea about the issues behind it.

Scott has been giv-en an unparalleled opportunity to shine a light on the system and that will be his

legacy," Mr Lloyd says. Mr McGrath hopes that by packaging the entire Scott inquiry, which took 11 months, into a 90-minute film, "people will get the overall picture".

the implications are so great tions that emerged over many that broadcasters have a duty days in the inquiry in a single picture," he adds.

He points out that as the banned from the inquiry, it is difficult for most people to appreciate just how sensational much of it was.

George Faber, head of single dra-'You ma at the BBC, who commissioned the film, agrees that it will make couldn't the complexities of the Scott Report make it up.

more accessible to Nobody a wider audience. Mr McGrath, wouldwho was the originating director of the Z Cars series. believe it says that the inquiry was a drama-

tist's dream. There is certainly a lot of drama in the individual exchanges and in the way successive exchanges reveal what is going on. It is almost like a whodunnit." Both the BBC and Channel 4 say they have exercised great

restraint in order to ensure a fair and halanced view. "It would have been easy to make some people look very silly, but we have tried to avoid that by careful editing. Even then,

what comes out is a murky picture," Mr McGrath says. Both hope that their respective dramatic treatments of the Scott inquiry and report will set a precedent for them to mix politically and publicly sensitive current affairs events with drama and entertainment in

The BBC is already prepar-ing dramatisations of the Nick Leeson story, of the search for the killers of Julie Ward and of the Gulf War.

Mr Lloyd says that Channel 4 has been searching for years for a model of programme that could say some thing serious but which would also entertain and would not just draw upon the natural tools of the current affairs department.

"We are planning to run something similar during the general election campaign."

Alan Mitchell on the promotion worth \$400 million

It's crunch time in the war of the Pogs

panies. And if safety campaigners have their way, they could also trigger new legislation.
The Pog craze took off when a Hawaiian drinks company

revived an old Hawaiian game as a promotion for its Passion fruit, Orange and Guava (POG) drink, It put colourful designs on its bottle tops so that kids could collect them. The kids went crazy. The American games entre-

preneur Doug McFadden (other hits: Trivial Pursuit, Pictionary) and friends liked the promotion so much they bought the company. Now they are turning it into a global brand. Mr McFadden is in London this week to sign up a major drinks company to sell Pog drink across Europe.

The success secret behind the game of Pog, he says, is its old-fashioned simplicity. They're like marbles. Kids can stuff them in their pocket, collect and trade them, and UK they cost 99p for six). Parents love Pogs because they get the children away from the computer screen and playing

together instead. Like marbles, they're won and lost in playground compe-titions, says Barry Walker, chairman of the British Association of Toy Retailers, which last week named Pogs the toy

Il three major crisp manufacturers, Walk-Lers, KP, and Golden Wonder, have launched, or are about to launch Pogrelated promotions. Together, they'll push the UK's Pog population up to around half a billion, or ten for every man, woman and child.

Starting in a few weeks, Golden Wonder will be distributing 45 million Pogs in its crisp packets. Not to be out-done, Walkers will begin placing 250 million Tazos (its own version of Pogs) in packets of vers and Monster Munch. This represents a magic figure of 25 for every person under the age of 15.

"Walkers' parent company PepsiCo Foods International has had staggering success with Tazos promotions in oth-

er countries and, in its experience, at that level of Pogs per capita the craze really takes off," declares its UK marketvice-president, Martin

Glenn.
While the original Pog is cardboard. Tazos are plastic. Tazos also have a notch in them that allows children to stick them together. "We have a point of difference. Ours are buildable," boasts Mr Glenn.

"We are offering the genuine article," replies Nigel Parrott, marketing manager of Golden Wonder, which paid Waddington's, the owners of the UK licence, for the privige. Earlier this year United

Biscuits subsidiary KP withdrew 12 million packets of Skips after consumers complained that the Pog-like "milk cans" it had used in a promotion could be swallowed. Now, in the wake of reports that a Belgian woman choked to n on a crisp-packet po safety campaigners are calling for the promotions to be halted.

"If Pogs are small enough to be put in the mouths of children they are dangerous. It's an unnecessary hazard," says James Tye, director-general of the British Safety

The council has been campaigning packets for the last 30 years, and this week Mr Tye called in-pack promotions. Both Walkers and Golden Wonder insist that their brightly coloured toys, which are separately wrapped in plastic

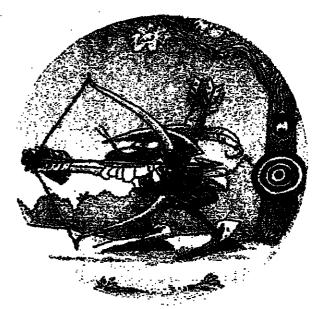
Indeed, their safeguards go beyond what the law requires. We have passed all the choke tests," says Mr Glenn, in Holland, where a similar promotion is well under way, there have not been any reports of problems,

he adds. Meanwhile, there is big money to be made out of little Pogs. Last year Waddington's sold more than 100 million of the cardboard discs while the brand's owners, the World Pog Federation, totted up global sales of \$400 million. Golden Wonder is spending £3.5 million on its promotion, including TV advertising. It is hoping for a 20 per cent sales

Talkers still expects its Tazos promotion to generate huge sales

DensiCo Food Interincreases. PepsiCo Food International decided to "go global" with Tazos promotions after initial tests produced sales

In Holland, more Tazos collectors' albums have been purchased than the country has children. If Walkers achieves half of that sort of uptake here, it will be close to overtaking Coca-Cola to become the country's biggest supermarket brand.



Crisp-makers say Pogs like this one will boost sales

BBC drama gains on ITV

drama ratings and competeeffectively with ITV in this field is showing promising signs of paying off. The corporation occupies ten of the top 20 drama programmes in our ratings The epic series

straight to the top of the BBC2 ratings chart with 5.1 million viewers. The question now is whether it can maintain this audience for all nine episodes.

The BBC's latest detective series. Hetty Wainthropp Investigates, is also scoring

THE BBC's quest to boost its Friends in the North shot well with more than ten million viewers.
The BBC cannot afford to be complacent, however. ITV is soon to air a raft of strong popular drama series which regularly top the ten million mark. These include Kavanagh OC, Peak Prac-

tice and Band of Gold 2.

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High-spending editors have so far failed to stop the Express fall, says Brian MacArthur

Mail shrugs off rival challenge

spectator sports — The Sun v the Daily Mirror. The Guardian v The Independent, the editorship of The Observer - but none is more engaging than the epic battle between the resurgent Mail group and the steadily sinking Express group.

So there was huge entertainment to be had from the Daily Mail on Monday when it trumpeted its sales had risen above two million. For Paul Dacre, Editor of

the Daily Mail since 1992 after the 21-year reign of Sir David English (now chairman of Associated Newspapers and Editor-in-Chief), the an-nouncement will have offered several reasons for relish. In an era when sales of national newspapers have been falling. to sell more than two million copies a day — up 250,000 copies on a year ago and for the first time for 28 years - is a huge achievement in itself, albeit with help from a the death of Today. It meant, too, that under

Dacre the Daily Mail has achieved a significantly higher sale than was ever recorded during the editorship of the legendary English. A greater reason for relish,

however, was that sales of the Daily Mail went up in January as those of its rival, the Daily Express went down. In what many see as a final attempt by Lord Stevens of Ludgate, chairman of Express Newspapers, to revive the flagging sales of his two flagship national fitles, new editors were appointed in December to the Daily Express

and Sunday Express. Both Richard Addis and Sue Douglas got their main experience on the Daily Mail. With the promise of millions of pounds of investment, they have hired and fired with abandon. Addis, who went to the Daily Express, instantly recruited five of Dacre's most



The mid-market tabloids are involved in an epic struggle

senior lieutenants as well as a clutch of his star writers, some of whom turned down offers of even more money to stay.

At the Sunday Express.

Douglas recruited eight journalists, having approached 40, from The Sunday Times. where she had been deputy editor. She has recruited Julie Burchill from The Sunday Times as a columnist and

moved the paper upmarket. Neither Addis nor Douglas will get sympathy from the

Baily an Mail

of declining sales would be an Yet in January, when sales start rising after the Christmas dip, sales of both their

papers fell again. When the

cut-throat world of Fleet

Street, but both deserve it:

simply to arrest four decades

monthly Audit Bureau of Circulation report is published on Friday it is expected to show that the Daily Mail increased by 79,000 last month against a loss by the Daily Express of about 19,000.

Meanwhile, the Sunday Express shed 43,000 sales, as The Mail on Sunday boosted its circulation by more than 100,000 to over 2.1 million and for the first time in history The Sunday Times, at about 1,295,000, sold more than the Sunday Express.

The sales figures will put both editors under renewed pressure to show results for the money they have spent some writers are now on more than £100,000 a year. They need the investment they have been promised in the sort of reader promotions at which the Mail group excels. That investment needs to be continuous rather than spasmodic -a new Express scratchcard game last month failed to lift

هكذاف الاجل

THE TIMES TODAY

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7 1996

NEWS

Lords win TV sport battle

■ Broadcasting of top sporting events on BBC and ITV was guaranteed last night after the Lords defeated the Government, preventing them going exclusively to satellite television.

A cross-party alliance of peers secured a 117-vote victory to ensure general broadcasting of eight events - cricket Test matches: the Derby; the Grand National; the Football World Cup finals; the FA Cup final; the Scottish FA Cup final; Wimbledon finals; and the Olympics Pages 1, 10, 27

Sid told to cash in his shares

Sid. the archetypal small shareholder eagerly pursued when British Gas was privatised, is being told that he is not wanted now that the company is to be split up. Such investors are to be encouraged to cash in their shares to avoid British Gas Energy having a register of 1.8 million riames..........Pages I, 25, 27, 29

Snow chaos

Much of Britain was paralysed by some of the heaviest snowfalls for 50 years with motorists stranded for a second night in their cars and hundreds of schools shut

Swimmer breaks legs The Olympic dreams of Alex Ben-

nett, 18, one of Britain's brightest young swimmers, have been shattered by a head-on car crash in which she broke both legs on her way to training Page 1

Clarke warning

Slashing the welfare budget overnight could lead to riots in the streets, Kenneth Clarke told the Tory Right as he mapped out a gradual path to reducing state .. Pages 2, 10 spending...

School tests

Gillian Shephard is asking her curriculum advisers to consider tests for nine-year-olds to counter alarm about primary school

.... Pages 4, 18 Collins in court Joan Collins swept into a New York Court "to speak for many authors" in a dispute with the

publisher who rejected her novel as "implausible".....

Asthma campaign More than 1,000 people are dying from asthma in Britain each year because doctors prescribe the wrong drugs, experts said at the

launch of a campaign......Page 6

Destitute doctor

An American doctor whose new British employers paid for his rottweiler and pick-up truck to be brought from Missouri said they were all he had left after a divorce .. Page 1, 3 settlement

Murder memories

Elsie Wilson. 67, a Yorkshire farmer's wife, is preparing for the anniversary of the motiveless murder of her twin sister Margaret. Police say the killing remains

indian prohibition

The north Indian state of Haryana has announced that all rural liquor stores must close permanently by April I in another attempt to control the nation's thirst for alcohol Page 🛭

White House race

As Louisiana Republicans prepared to cast the first votes of the 1996 presidential election the enormous cost of Steve Forbes's bid was revealed Page 12

Cézanne fever

Philippe Paul Cézanne was feted as he arrived for the exhibition of his great-grandfather's work. The Tate has been swamped by ticket applications Page 13

Serbs questioned

War crimes investigators from The Hague questioned three senior Serb military officers seized by the Bosnian Government in Sarajevo last week Page 14

Lada convoy heads home to Ukraine

Five Ukrainian sailors stranded on Tyneside for ten months are setting off for home in three battered Ladas. They are the remaining crew of the tall ship Tovarisch, marooned since last April, when safety experts said it would cost £2 million to make her seaworthy. Local people have been feeding and clothing them. The captain is staying with his ship.



Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, addressing the inaugural meeting of the Westminster Media Forum in London

iobs are at risk after a rescue attempt broke down and administrators were appointed at Coal Investments... ..Page 25

unexpected slump in manufacturing activity led to the weakest quarterly performance since early 1992 and increased speculation about base rates falling further...Page 25 Jaguar: The car company has been forced to lay off more than 2,000 workers for a weekPage 26

World Cup ... Manufacturing fall: December's unexpectedly beaten by Scotland

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index ended 0.9 points higher at 3,747.5, with 871.7 million shares traded. The pound rose 0.78 cents to \$1.5405 and 1.38 pfennigs to DM2.2664, lifting the sterling index to 84.3 ..Page 28 from 83.7..

202

Cricket: The chairman and chief executive of the international Cricket Council are to intercede in the dispute over matches scheduled for Colombo which threatens the

Football: Roger Stanislaus was sacked by Leyton Orient after testing positive for cocaine after a match at Barnet last November. Stanislaus was already suspended for a year by the FA..... Page 48 Rugby union: France, who were

last weekend, have dropped four players for their next match in the five nations' championship, ... Page 43 against Ireland... Athletics: Dionicio Ceron will attempt a hat-trick in the London Marathon on April 21 Page 43

Mersevbeat memories: A new musical, Ferry Cross the Mersey, is part of Liverpool's growth industry: marketing its pop past. Alan Jackson on the city that sells John Lemon Meringue Pie......Page 39

Post-apartheld: At the Royal Court, the playwright Athol Fugard offers a deep and subtle message for the new South Africa in Valley Song......Page 39

Young at Art: Schoolchildren are learning to write songs like Berg rather than Blur, thanks to a Wigmore Hall songwriting project in four schools....

Music man: Mark Elder is back at English National Opera, the place where he made his name as an opera conductor. But does Covent Garden beckon?...

- 34 CMOHROWS IN THE TIMES

■ FILMS Cops and dealers: Spike Lee travels

in Clockers

■ BOOKS. Anthony Storr on why the poet Michael Ryan

is addicted to sex

mean streets again

Great Scott: Television has found that the Scott inquiry has more oneliners than most sit-coms. Page 23

their 1988 peak but they are 20 per cent up on 1992

photograph their offspring in this spring's look....

survey of who earns what on the salary ladder

The United States would have no

the essentials discovered by the middle classes, a social stratum

which needs defending Page 17

Riverside rises: Property prices in London's Docklands remain below

Trendy toddlers: Children like to look cool and be comfortable, says lain R. Webb, as three mothers

Pay ups and downs: Our annual

choice but to help Taiwan to defend itself against attack by Communist China. No treaty or law compels this response, but decency and strategic interest demand it. However, there is an overwhelming national need to prevent today's friction be-The Washington Post

Preview: Ordinary Britons on Carf faith and life after death. V Nation (BBC2, 7pm): Review. Man

thew Bond makes friends with the

Great Scott

voice-overs

Judgment on the report by Sir Richard Scott into government policy on arms sales to Iraq will not be complete by Friday morning, and ministers' fates will not be determined by Friday's headlines Page 19

Wise virgins

Editors and proprietors should ask. themselves how happy they are to bid for pocket money by promising sex. They have a duty of care to their readers as much as their marketing departments Page 19 Colombia's 'Caligate'

The rule of law is still held in esteem by Colombians, Senor Samper, however, is not He should find another job Page 19

LORD MACKAY

Our living constitution may look untidy, but like the Wynds in the old parts of Scotland's towns it is homely, it is ours, and it has grow through our historyPage SIMON JENKINS:

With league tables of teachers, e children, even of parents, Gillian Shephard and Chris Woodheat could prove conclusively that the middle classes are top Page 19

PETER RIDDELL -Kenneth Clarke made a convincing case for gradualism. There is in alternative to Peter Lilley's piece meal approach in limiting frage. commitments. Over time, these cinproduce sizeable savings ... Page 10

SIMON BARNES Xenophobia is part of sporting it. It has to be: when you was a country, it is the enemy. This is inevitable, but those of us with are not international athletes should avoid the same error Page 46

Brigadier Donald Nott: The

Right Rev Vernon Nicholls, Bishop of Sodor and Man, 1974-83; Sir Archibald Ross

Kohl's European "convoy", pop composers; Burundi: elec reform

Sunny

Sunny -

Cloudy

Drizzle .

Overcast

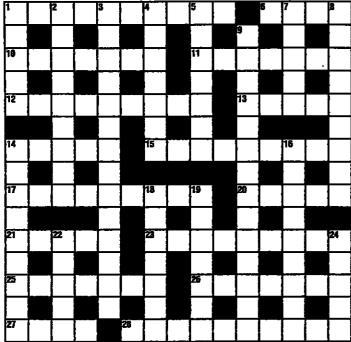
Rain

Sunny showers

Slee. striny showers

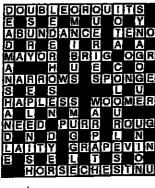
Lightning

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,084



ACROSS

- I Representative character from book of James (10). 6 Young group's state (4).
- 10 Job certainly was invalid (7). 11 Valour in the thick of battle, hiding sign of pain (7). 12 Conclusive move on board to
- restrain ship's officer (9). 13 Brought up near a city in Europe
- 14 More sensible to use old-fashioned way, right? (5). 15 Submitted to trial, provided one gets caught and witnessed (9).
- 17 Views, say, with headlands (9). 20 Nomad wants animal back before end of this year (5). 21 Take place of commander, calling
- up reserves initially (5). 23 Detected doing something wrong. and arrested abroad (6,3).
- 25 Drink more rum, number one (7). Solution to Puzzle No 20.083



- 26 Scholar in one version of Islam or oriental religion (7). 27 Standard choice between central characters (4).
- 28 Be patronising about scrambled second goal (10).
- I An aromatic flavouring mostly used in meat jelly (5).

in part of London (9).

3 Variety of cranks pose 'ere? Right (8.6). 4 Do some drawing in pamphlet, at

2 Bleat about street needing rapair

- ਹਿਤ (7). 5 Weigh down with work and urgency of business (7). Present expression of sympathy
- 8 Careful management from partner reduced transport business
- 9 One who's sceptical, but changes during performance with poet
- 14 Part of US is seen in western with criminals in (9). 16 Make do and mend around island
- 18 Instrument little used in Italy (7). 19 Son selected, took part in boat race 22 Manager who works at stock
- 24 Two chaps briefly recorded the minutes, say (5). Times Two Crossword, page 48

exchange? (5).

TIMES WEATHERCALL

Kent Surrey, Sussor Dosset Harth. & IOPH Devon & Comwall. Wits, Gloucs, Azon, Sorrs Berks Bucks, Oxon Berks Harts & Esser Norfalk, Suffor, Cambs West Mid & Sth Glam & G Streppd-Herofds & Words Central Middards Earl Middards

East McClands
Lines & Pullys
Dyted & Pollys
Gaynedd & Cwyd
N W Srigand
W & S Yorks & Date:
N E England
Cumbria & Lake Drube:
S W Scotland
W Control Septions S W Scotland W Central Scotland Edin S Fite/Lothian & Borders

Edin S Historiaan o Boroans E Central Scottand Grandsan & E Highlands N W Scottand Cadhess, Orlody & Shedand N Internal Code Shedand Weathercallis of argod at 33c per minute (prica) rate) and 45p per minute at as bit or times

AA ROADWATCH

appropriate goor
London & SE traffic, readworks
Area with M25
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Ken/Surfay/Surse/Harts,
M25 London Orbi/ai chy

HIGHEST & LOWEST

WHERE ARE YOU DOING THIS CROSSWORD? It you've doing it at home becau Sickness Plan could be paving vo WPA@

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☐ General: England and Wales will skies with rain and sleet spreading be generally cloudy, with light out-breaks of snow along the east coast and in northeast England, Rain; sleet

and snow will spread into the southwest during the morning and across southern counties in the afternoon. Scotland and Northern Ireland will also be cloudy, with Northern Ireland and western Scotland seeing the best of any brightness. The rest of Scotland will have further outbreaks

of snow, white sleet will spread into Northern keland later in the ☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, E Midlands, W Midlands, N Wales: cloudy. Rain, sleet and snow from late

afternoon. Cold. Wind light south-easterly, becoming moderate to fresh. Max 1C (34F).

across from the west. The wind will become fresh southeasterly. Max 4C

☐ E. England, Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: cloudy. Outbreaks of light snow. Wind moderate southeast. Cold. Max OC (205)

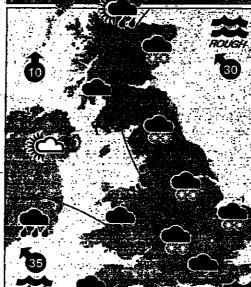
☐ NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N ireland: cloudy with writty showers. Wind light to moderate south to southeast. Max 2C (36F)

☐ Outlook for Thursday and Friday: sleet and snow will affect the south and west, but sleet and snow in

☐ Central S England, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales: cloudy the south will die out. AROUND ENITAIN VESTERDAY l=lair, ig=fog, g=gale; ≠thunder Sun Rain Mo iss in C - 028 -1 3

Max F 30 36 34 34 39 41 34 45 29 34 sn 28 sn 35 sn 34 s 031 34 34 35 43 34 902 32 _sn . 34 2 36 87 7 45 C 7 34 C 1 34 ST 0.31 34 41 36 43 11 25 807 5 2 6 0.52 1.04 001

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Akrotin
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Alaris din
Alaris
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Changes to chart below from noon: high S will be slow-moving over Scandinavia; lows O and K will combine into one centre near (caland: low M will move southeast into France and fill slightly



1. 11. 11. Avarmouts Bellast Cardill

Mejourney from

Temperatu (Celsius) Wind speed (mph) & direction

Aputinto acimir

ARTS 39-41

Mark Elder: happy to be back on the podium at ENO



a capital-intensive, long-term

business operating in world

markets, generating a steady stream of dividends. By con-

trast British Gas Energy will

judges that circumstances make it appropriate to do so". BGE will be loaded with

£40-billion of take-or-pay gas

contracts, with liabilities esti

balance these, British Gas has

allotted the company its prized North and South Morecambe

gasfields, capable of supply

ing 15 per cent of Britain's

The first task of the new

management will be to rene-

gotiate gas-purchase contracts

with 40 leading North Sea

producers, at a time when spot

prices are around half the

level of British Gas's average

which at the end of the last

financial year was £2.3 billion

and has since risen by several

hundred million. It will have

assets of about £21 billion

against the £2.6 billion in

assets that will be held by

and other fees (Patricia Tehan

writes). British Gas has been working on its demerger plans for several months and costs have already begun to add up.

British Gas Energy.

The splitting of Br

20p a therm contract price. TransCo will end up with most of British Gas's debt,

peak gas needs.

eek to return funds to share-

HOMES 33

Families are moving back into Docklands



SPORT 43-48

France ring in changes for Ireland game

TELEVISION AND **RADIO** Pages 46,47

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7 1996

Restructuring prompted by loss of supply monopoly and massive liabilities

British Gas sets 1997 target for demerger

BY ROSS TIEMAN AND ERIC REGULY

BRITISH GAS yesterday unveiled the most radical restructuring in British corporate history, detailing plans to give 1.8 million investors free shares in a demerged gas supply business.

The company is to float off its gas supply business, together with Britain's biggest gasfields and its £40 billion of loss-making, take-or-pay contracts. The move aims to free the utility from the uncertainties and liabilities arising from the Government's removal of its monopoly over the supply of gas to households and

The demerged British Gas Energy, as it has been provisionally named, will have employees, annual assets of £2.6 billion. It will also include British Gas Service, the loss-making contract

appliance maintenance arm. Stripped of its gas supply business, the remaining Brit-ish Gas company, provisionally renamed TransCo International, will have at its core

BRITISH GAS SINCE PRIVATISATION

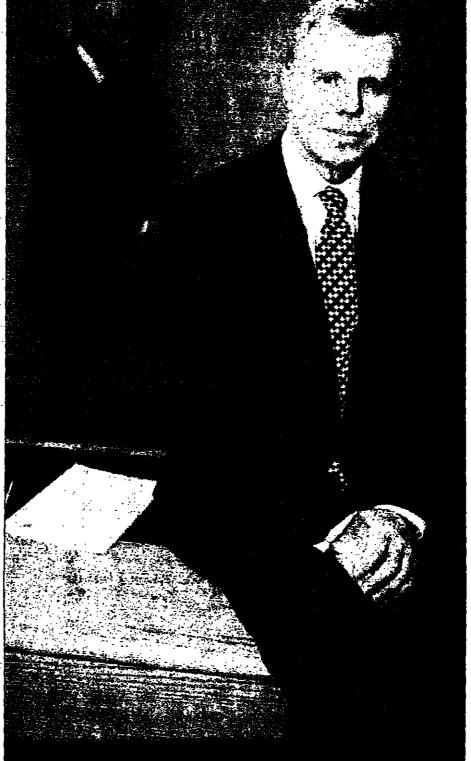
set by Ofgas, the gas regula-tor, this business will earn profits of around £700 million a year from fees paid by shippers, including British Gas Energy.

TransCo International will also include British Gas's overseas exploration, produc-tion, and distribution activities in Latin America, Asia and Eastern Europe, and its gasburning power stations in Britain and overseas.

Cedric Brown, the 61-yearold chief executive of British Gas, is to retire at the company's annual meeting in April.
But final proposals for the
demerger, requiring approval
by investors controlling 51 per cent of the shares voted, will not be tabled until the April

1997 meeting. However, Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, has approved changes in British Gas's licence that will enable it to transfer assets into the new supply business. Executives to head the new businesses and oversee the integration will be named in early summer.
Richard Giordano, chair-

man of British Gas, said TransCo International will be



Brown study: the retiring Gas chief yesterday. Richard Giordano is in the background

Investors divided over break-up

By Patricia Tehan

BRITISH GAS'S demerger plans brought starkly contrastng reactions from its shareholders. The most hostile came from the Pensions Investment Research Consultants (Pirc), which advises institutional shareholders on investments.

Anne Simpson, a Pirc director, said splitting British Gas into two businesses would not make the contract problem go away. Shareholders would still "own" the problem in the form of shares in the new

She said Cedric Brown was the fourth executive to receive increased salaries under Brit-ish Gas's new pay policy and subsequently announce his retirement from the board. She urged British Gas to seek shareholder approval of its remuneration policy.

ger institutional investors were broadly in favour of the plans and expressed sympathy with Mr Brown. One said his firm had been irritated with British Gas's lack of openness about the contracts problem, but had sympathy with the view that when they had been signed the company was in a monopoly position. The demerger appeared to make sense as the company was essentially two different businesses. However he said, "our view is that BGE will struggle". Sir Anthony Beaumont-

Dark, the former Conservative MP who chairs the TR High Trust w £700,000 of British Gas shares, called for Mr Giordano to stand aside. He said his fund would vote against Mr Giordano taking on the chief executive's role when Mr Brown retires. "I hope other institutions will follow our lead," he said. However, his fund would back demerger, as the best solution to British Gas's problems, he said.

BUSINESS **TODAY**

However, British Gas's big-NORTH SEA OIL Brent 15-day (Apr) \$16.05 (\$16.00) London close \$410.55 (\$414,75)

Lloyd's profit

Lloyds of London is set to unveil a El billion profit, its first since 1987. The profit, relating to the year 1993, will partly offset the £8 billion losses of the last five years.

send home a third of its workforce after being hit by stagnant sales in the UK and overseas. Some 2,200 workers will be paid lay-off wages for a week. The plans caught the industry by surprise. Jaguar sales had jumped 30 per cent

last year.

Brown goes, page I Pennington, page 27 Dinosaur monopoly, page 29 City diary, page 29 Long journey from fitter to chief executive's chair

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

IN SPITE OF his many achievements, the name of Cedric Brown will always be associated with a 30-stone pig that buried its snout in a bucket labelled Share Options outside a British Gas

shareholders' meeting last summer.
Cedric the pig was brought along to the annual meeting by a band of small shareholders furious at what they claimed were the excessive pay and perks of BG's top directors. Their protest set the tone for one of the stormiest AGMs the City has seen. More than 4,500 small shareholders attended to vote against the reappointment of four directors, but proxy votes from institutional investors holding 97 per cent of the votes won the day. The bluff Yorkshireman who rose from

gas litter to BG chief executive over 44 years, put the episode down to "part of

life's rich experience". Colleagues say it was his combination of an iron will and a driving ambition that kept him going that day. Mr Brown says his time as an engineer taught him to solve problems through practical measures, although his critics portray him as a man steeped in the utility culture with little experience of the outside world.

He left school at 16 to become a laboratory assistant with the East Midlands Gas Board. Then, 22 years later, he became East Midlands director of engineering and was thrust on to the management fast track. A head office post came three years later, and in 1980 he was put in charge of BG's first big offshore development, the Morecambe Bay gas field.

He was made chief executive in 1992.

In November 1994, he gained £205,000 rise, bringing his salary to £475,000.

A survivor with no intention of bowing out of the fray

By Eric Reguly and Alasdair Murray

RICHARD GIORDANO, the former New York lawyer who became nonexecutive chairman of British Gas two years ago, has emerged as a survivor Giordano will replace Cedric Brown, initially as chief executive. His basic salary of £450,000. however, will not

Mr Giordano, who was chief executive of BOC Group before joining British Gas, was supposed to have worked only three days a week. Instead, he found that defending

Mr Brown's salary and overseeing a company under severe competitive threat were full-time jobs. He will have ultimate responsibility for the success of British Gas's split into two

separately listed companies. Mr Giordano has no intention of leaving when the demerger is finished in the spring of 1997. He wants to

become non-executive chairman of

both BGE and Transco. Relations between Mr Giordano and the seven non-executive directors who are charged with ensuring that shareholders' rights are protected during the demerger process, are said to have deteriorated during the past

There is a good chance that Philip Rogerson, 51, an executive director, whose portfolio includes the pipeline and overseas development divisions, will become chief executive of TransCo. Roy Gardner, who succeeded Mr Rogerson as finance director in 1994, is thought to be gunning for the chief executive's position at BGE.

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Martin Vantage picked up from the factory.

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out-going CHAIRMAN. And someone

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CI put into administration

By PHILLIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

COAL privatisation claimed its first casualty yesterday when Coal investments, the UK's second-largest mining group, was placed in administration after the breakdown of a rescue attempt. Administrators said they

planned to carry on trading while they considered options. CI, set up by Malcolm Edwards, the former British Coal marketing director, three years ago, applied yesterday to the High Court for an order under the 1986 Insolvency Act after lengthy talks with the company's three bankers.

The company said adminis-trators had been brought in after its banks failed to agree on an attempt to raise new cash. The company said that Munion Bank of Switzerland had asked for administrators to be appointed after differing with NatWest and Banque Indosuez over a plan to extend



Edwards: set up company

trying to raise cash in the City. had used up its £30 million borrowing facility and was looking for another £8 million to help it to increase capacity. National Power, the electricity generator, confirmed that it had been involved in talks over a possible rescue deal for

the company. The court appointed three partners from Arthur Andersen, the accountant, as joint administrators. They held

talks yesterday with Depart-ment of Trade and Industry officials and with the Coal Authority, which has responsibility for aspects of the industry.

Cl's deep mines are Hem Heath and Silverdale near Stoke-on-Trent, Annesley Ben-tinck near Nottingham, Trentham at Covenity, and Mark-ham Maine in Doncaster. Cl also has a 32.5 per cent stake in the Mining Scotland group. Arthur Andersen said CI. which has up to 1,500 miners

and staff, had been experiencing severe cash flow problems as a result of greater than expected difficulties and costs in reopening and developing the mines previously closed by British Coal.

Murdoch McKillop, one of the administrators, said: "We plan to carry on trading while we review all the options open to us." Ci's shares have been suspended since December after losses escalated to £18.3

Pennington, page 27 | are few betting on the third

Factory output fall worst since 1992

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent base rate cut in a row after

MANUFACTURING activity slumped unexpectedly badly in December, leading to the weakest quarterly perfor-mance since early 1992 and making the City even more certain that base rates will fall further in the weeks ahead.

Manufacturing output fell 0.7 per cent, having declined 0.1 per cent in November, according to the Central Statistical Office. Output fell 0.2 per cent in the final quarter, compared with the previous three months. The CSO says it now estimates that there is zero underlying growth in the sector.

Industrial production. which includes energy production, rose 0.4 per cent in December as cold weather boosted demand for gas and electricity. But even in this series, the CSO estimates that growth is running at about only 0.5 per cent a year. There

today's monthly monetary meeting between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England. But many expect that rates will be cut by another quarter point at the meeting next month. Ian Shepherdson, UK econ-

omist at HSBC Markets, said: "If these figures don't frighten the authorities, nothing will. The outlook for the next few months is bleak." Economists put the sharp

decline in manufacturing down to companies aggres sively selling out of the substantial stockpiles built up last year when demand slowed unexpectedly sharply. This phenomenon is expected to continue for some months and to continue to depress overall economic growth.

Pennington, page 27

Jaguar sends home a third of workforce

MOTORING EDITOR

JAGUAR became the first carmaker to be squeezed by stagnant UK sales and a rapid slowdown overseas when it sent home a third of its workforce vesterday.

It signed off 2,200 production workers from plants in Coventry and Birmingham for the rest of week, costing output of 900 saloons and sports cars worth about £36 million at showroom prices. Workers will receive lay-off

pay - about 30 per cent of their normal wage.

The announcement surprised the motor industry, which had seen Jaguar's fortunes revive with the launch of the XI saloon range. Sales last year jumped 30 per cent worldwide

Lloyd's to

reveal its

first profit

since 1987

LLOYD'S OF LONDON is nounced in the summer.

Based on syndicate forecasts

and its own calculations, IIS

expects names to have made

an average return on capacity

This excludes names' ex-

penses and any potential special levy imposed on the

However, IIS believes that

some underwriters are erring

on the side of caution and as a

result the best-case scenario

could be a return of 13.55 per

cent, which gives a profit of

The worst-case scenario produces a return of 8.7 per cent or a profit of £759.4 million.

The results for the 1993 year of account are announced this

summer because of Lloyd's

three-year accounting system.

The years of 1993 and 1994

were widely expected to pro-duce good profits because of

higher rates and higher de-ductibles together with mark-

During the years of 1987 to

1992, the insurance market

was hit by a string of disasters,

including Piper Alpha, Exxon

Valdez and the hurricanes

that the best performing sector

of the market will be the

marine market, followed by

IIS is forecasting the marine

market makes an average

return of 14.87 per cent, result-

ing in a profit of £480 million.

IIS has increased an earlier

forecast for the 1994 year of

account from £700 million to

The company's best-case

scenario predicts a profit of E1.27 billion, which is slightly

However, 1994 saw a

marked increase in capacity,

resulting in too much money

chasing the available insur-

As a result, IIS expects the

return to drop from 11.12 per

cent in 1993 to 9.45 per cent in

the motor market.

ahead of 1993.

ance risks.

business plan.

Hugo, Andrew and Iniki. Reflecting the benefits of these factors, IIS calculates

edly fewer catastrophes.

of 11.12 per cent.

membership.

£1.18 billion.

expected to reveal its first

IIS, a Lloyd's adviser, pre-

dicts that the market's thou-

sands of investors will have

made a profit of about El

billion through insuring risks

the £1.2 billion loss on the 1992

year of account unveiled last May, which pushed the total

losses shouldered by names

over a five-year period above

the £8 billion mark.
The profit will be an-

EU boost

for Welsh

projects

More than 200 industrial,

business support and envi-

ronmental projects in

Wales are to receive Euro-

pean Union grant aid worth £32.8 million. The

finance, awarded from the

European Regional Dev-

elopment Fund and the

Guarantee Fund, will pro-

vide new industrial es-

tates, land reclamation

and renewal programmes, and training initiatives.

Handy banks

Lloyds Bank and Citibank

have both launched services

that can be used on a Psion.

the hand-held computer

The Lloyds scheme, which the bank said is in a pilot

stage, will enable customers

to send electronic cheques

to any account in the UK.

Citibank customers will be

able to manage all aspects

of their accounts using

Psion-compatible software.

Consolidating

Consolidated Coal, the

mining company with six

sites in Wales, is negotiat-

ing the acquisition of Glotec Mining, which has

open cast and under-

ground mining interests in the Neath Valley. The

takeover will cost about

£2.6 million, to be raised

by the issue of £2.1million

E500,000 in cash.

This is in sharp contrast to

profit since 1987.

and were up 18 per cent in the US, the company's biggest market. A spokesman said: "We are taking prudent measures now because we can see that the rate of growth we have been seeing will not go on throughout this year."

Motor industry sales last month totalled 191,761, only 0.3 per cent ahead of the same month last year. Carmakers pinned their hopes on a good January, the second biggest sales month of the year, believing interest rate cuts and lower mortgage rates could stimulate the market.

Manufacturers kept assembly lines running last year by increasing export sales 20 per cent. but fears are growing that a slowdown overseas will force more lay-offs. Carmakers have told the Treasury that another year of stagnation, after six years of recession and unsteady

recovery, could hit jobs and output. Neil Marshall, director of economics at the Retail Motor Industry Federation, said: "The Treasury told us that growth would show through in the first quarter of the year, yet January has shown us that the trend is not significantly upwards at all.

هكذا من الرجل

We are going into the seventh year in which we face little or no growth and the Government will have to face up to that. We got little sympathy from the Treasury. Carmakers have been doing everything they could to keep their plants busy while registrations here have been flat, but now we are seeing signs of what could be an extremely difficult time ahead."

Registrations were helped last year by a plethora of new models. However, companies have less to offer this year, and many will have to survive by discounting and special offers. But that is a costly option. Vauxhall last week reported profits down from £79 million before tax to £3 million because of what it described as "severe and costly competitive action in a stagnant UK market". Vauxhall's sales slipped again last month, from 31,780 to 27,957, while

Jaguar was off by 94 sales at 1.065. Ford led the market with 41,837 registrations, although that figure was down by 1,400. Rover's performance stayed about the same as January, 1995, at 20,776. The best-selling cars last month were: I. Ford Fiesta; 2, Ford Mondeo: 3, Ford Escort: 4, Vauxhall Astra: 5, Vauxhall Vectra; 6, Vauxhall Corsa; 7, Peugeot 306; 8, Rover 400; 9, Renault Clio; 10, Rover 100.

Rothschild.

The most recent high-profile defence against Granada.

conducted to ensure a proper

He said that 1995 had seen a good deal of takeover activity and he expected another busy year. However, he added: "I think it depends to a large extent on stock market circumstances and people's confidence."

He succeeds William Staple, who is returning to NM

controversial takeover situations — he was head of the Warburg corporate finance team advising Northern Electric on its defence against a El.I billion hostile bid from Trafalgar House, which was advised by SBC. The bid was the first of a series last year for regional electricity companies.

bid Mr Defriez was involved with was advising Forte in its

Mr Defriez is following in the footsteps of John Walker-Hawarth, the Warburg corpo-

panel was doing an excellent job. "It is an institution that is

challenge for the panel was to respond to change in the market, "particularly in the way that contested bids are flow of information".

Pennington, page 27

Warburg man to be **Takeover** Panel chief

By Patricia Tehan

ALISTAIR DEFRIEZ, a director of SBC Warburg, is to become Director-General of the Takeover Panel on March ll on a two-year secondment.

Mr Defriez is no stranger to

When SBC bought Warburg last summer the bid was on hold pending a review of electricity prices, but seeing the conflict, the Takeover Panel advised Warburg to step down as adviser to Northern.

rate finance director who was Director-General from 1985 to Mr Defriez said that the

widely respected by practitio-ners and others in the City." He added that its non-statutory status enabled it to respond more informally and faster than would be permitted under a legal structure. He said that the continuing

KEN WILKIE, chief execusince the buyout of IBM UK's £500,000 were achieved tive of Xyratex, pictured, said Havant division. Mr Wilkie through new policies to reuse

and recycle.

Ell million on revenue of £279 division enjoyed four-fold million in the first full year growth. Cost savings of 600,000 sq ft manufacturing plant at Havant. Hampshire. Domecq warns of sales dip

BY MARTIN BARROW

ALLIED DOMECQ. the This is below the target return on capacity of 10 per cent that Lloyd's set in its 1993 international spirits and retailing group, warned shareholders that interim profits The outlook for 1995 looks were likely to fall by about 20 even less favourable as the per cent this year.

the company, a manufacturer

of information storage prod-

ucts, earned pre-tax profits of

over-capacity forced rates down as underwriters fought ing his final annual meeting before his retirement, said the for market share. IIS has pencilled in a return spirits business had faced of 8.2 per cent, equating to a difficult trading conditions, profit of £835.6 million. particularly in Europe where

increases. In America, Christmas trade had failed to meet expectations, with wholesalers carrying relatively high Michael Jackaman chairlevels of stocks.

said disk drive manufacture

achieved year-on-year growth

of 20 per cent and the test

Mr Jackaman said factors affecting the performance of the spirits division, compounded by the dilution caused by disposals in the

0171-782 7344

the market had resisted price food sector, would result in a 20 per cent decline in profits for the six months to February 28, indicating a fall of about £62 million to £248 million.

Xyratex, whose customers

include Fujitsu, occupies a

The impact of these factors would ease in the second half, he said, and the second half performance would be assisted by cost cutting, a more favourable profit comparison in Mexico and Spain, and an improved trading performance overall.

Despite his reassurance, shares in Allied Domecq fell 14p to 501p yesterday. The shares have fallen from 556p in mid-January, losing 27p last week alone in response to a profit downgrade by Cazenove

Analysts now believe profits are unlikely to exceed £620 million in the current year. against original forecasts of £650 million. One broker expects profits to fall as low as £583 million, against a reported £635 million before excep-

tional charges.

Mr Jackaman said the second half profit from Domecq would be ahead of that for the corresponding period last year by about £25 million. Allied Domecq Retailing

continues to trade soundly while Carlsberg-Tetley, the UK brewing joint venture, was on an improved trend, Mr Jackaman, who has been at Allied Domecq for 30 years, is succeeded as chairman by Sir Christopher

Tempus, page 28

Investors excluded from Fokker shortlist

FOKKER, the troubled Dutch aircraft manufacturer, has drawn up a shortlist of potential buyers to rescue the company, but given warning that any solution would exclude investors who own its bonds and shares. "So far none of the candidates. has announced it is considering a bid for the bourse-listed shares or bonds of Fokker," the company said. Earlier the company said it hoped to reach a solution by March before a 365 million guilder (£145 million) cash lifeline from the Dutch Government is exhausted. The loss-making planemaker has been fighting for its life since Dairuler Benz, its German majority shareholder, cut off crucial cash support on January

22. forcing Fokker to seek court protection from creditors.

Four companies — British Aerospace, Aérospanale of France, Samsung Aerospace of South Korea and Bombardier of Canada — have confirmed that they are talking to the company. The fifth potential suitor is believed to be McDonnell Douglas, although this has not yet been confirmed.

Showtime for Turner

TURNER BROADCASTING, the television and entertain ment company set to merge with Time Warner, reported a 27 per cent drop in net income for the fourth quarter, although full-year profits more than quadrupled as the cable television operator attracted record audiences. Net income fell to \$19 million from \$26 million in the three months to December 31. affected by expenses of \$10 million related to the proposed merger. For the full year, profits rose to \$103 million from \$21 million in 1994. Turner's cable operations include the TBS, TNT and Cartoon Network channels.

Grundig job cut talks

UNION leaders and board members from Grundig, the German television and radio maker, held a meeting yesterday to discuss the company's plans to cut 3,000 jobs worldwide, more than two thirds of them in Germany. The consumer electronics company, an affiliate of Philips Electronics since 1984, announced the restructuring along with the news that its operating loss in 1995 increased to DM330 million from a DM127 million loss in 1994. Since the start of the decade, Grundig has cut almost 10,000 jobs. It currently has about 11,500 employees worldwide.

Radio station venture

THE Daily Mail and General Trust yesterday unveiled plans to establish a string of radio stations in Australia-The group, which has interests in more than 30 radio stations in the UK, said that expansion would be primarily through the acquisition of new FM broadcasting licences in Australia's larger cities, which are due to be auctioned by the Government for about A\$16 million (E7.96 million) each from next year. The group will also acquire existing

Medeva in £54m sale

MEDEVA, the UK pharmaceuticals company, has sold Ribosepharm, its German operation, to Klinge Pharma for £53.8 million. Ribosepharm, which sells a range of products against cancer, was bought in 1993 with the aim of promoting it to a new core business. Medeva said it found it hard to develop the business, which earned operating profits of £7.2 million in 1995 after a 1994 loss of £14.6 million. Klinge will pay £49.4 million in cash on completion, with the balance security against tax and other warranties.

Inspec expands in US

INSPEC, the chemical manufacturing group which has been independent since 1993 after a management buyout from BP; has acquired a US speciality chemical business from Allied Signal for \$28.7 million. The business, which has factories in Kansas and Arizona, manufactures a diverse range of chemicals which includes cosmetics ingredients and metal preservatives. The American company's site in Kansas is shared with Allco, which is the company that Inspec took over in December 1993.

Scottish Life launch

SCOTTISH LIFE has launched a new international life group and fund management subsidiary in Edinburgh. In the UK, Scottish Life International will sell personal equity plans, open-erided investment companies. Pep mortgages and guaranteed funds through a new fund management subsidiary. Internationally, it will sell offshore investment and protection products. Scottish Life International Holdings is the holding company, with Scottish Life and Kleinwort Benson the only two shareholders.

Gardiner's new focus

THE Gardiner Group, the wholesale distributor of electronic security systems, hopes to expand its closed-circuit television division in continental Europe, which is considered to be a less mature market than the UK. Gardiner reported pre-tax profits of £3.34 million for the year to October 31, against £3.5 million previously. The results were affected by net costs of £424,000 against acquisition costs and a loss on a fixed asset investment Earnings per share were 2p (2.17p). The total dividend rises to 0.85p, from 0.8p, with a 0.58p final, due on April 12

Clyde's Indonesian deal

CLYDE PETROLEUM is to take over the operation of four oilfields in Indonesia with estimated gross reserves of 70 million barrels. In its first venture in South-East Asia, the North Sea exploration company is paying \$51 million for Marathon International's 31.25 per cent interest in the Kakap Production Sharing Contract, which covers the Natura Sea. Clyde, which is buying Marathon Petroleum Indonesia, a subsidiary of the US oil company, says gross production this year will be about 43,000 harrels per day. Tempus, page 28

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

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Stat January 1996 confirming the reduction of capital of the above-named Company from £280,000,000 to £346,500,000 and the Microte approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act was regariered by the Registrar of Companies on 2nd February 1996 Dated 6th February 1996. Linkt, ATERS & PAINES Solicitors for the Company IN THE RIGH CORRE OF JUSTICE N THE RISE OF 1955

NO. 007756 OF 1995

CHANCEST DIVISION

COMPANIES COURT

IN THE MATTER OF

EVERSHED'S LEGAL SERVICES LIMITED

CENTRAL PLC

Re THE COMPANIES ACT 1986
NOTICE is betely given that
the Order of the High Court of
Justice (Chancery Division) dated
Sist Jamusry 1996 confirming
the reduction of capital of the

SERVICES LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE
COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE 6 HEXELY EVEN that the Godes
of the High Count of Instituce (Chancery
Division) dated 24th Jensery 1996
confirming the cancellation of the date
premish accused and the reduction of the
capital of the above-sured Company hors
L'0,006 to L'10,000 and the Mentel
approved by the Count shouling with support
in the capital of the County as alless of the
interesting of the County as alless of the

of the Insolvence Huera averanotice is hereby given that I. K P
Barry. FCA a Licrosed limit
verscy Practitianer of Vesser
Leopard Curtis & Co PO Box
553. 30 Easthourn Terrace.
Landon W2 6LP. was appointed
Liguidator of the above Commonly
by the members and creditors on
2nd February 1996 All debts and
claims should be sent to me at the
above address.

All creditors who have not
strongly done to are invited to
prove their claims in writing to
ree No further public acherities
ment of invitation to prove debts
will be given
Dated 2nd February 1996
K.P. BARRY, Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE NO. 007649 of 1995 CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF
CARLISLE CROLP PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HERCEY GIVEN
that the Order of the High Court
of Justice (Crancery Division)
dated 31st January 1996 cos
tirrating the reduction of the share
premium account of the share
normal Company by £1,582,807
was regulared by the Registrat of was registered by the sequent we companies on the 2nd February 1996.

Dated this fith day of February 1996 wash Lawson House. Lendon WIR 587.

Tel. 0171 393 9393:

Ref. TR/C549 Solicitats to Caritale Group Pic

Company Number: 994081

COTKE IS HEREBY CIVEN

AS FOLLOWS:

a I was appointed Liquidator on it January 1996 by the newthers of the above hamed company, which was placed into Members' botuntary Liquidation, pursuant to a group reconstruction.

In creditors of the company, who have not already done so should cutmin their claims in writing to me at the following address Abbry House, 74 Messey Street, Warmerster 1960 22.7 A furnished with the paid to creating the pound with the paid to creating who have called their proof by March 1978. Also creditors who have called their proof by the called their street in the company.

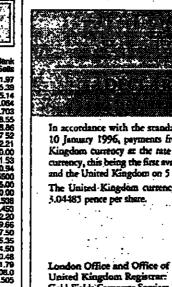
This necks is not a second of the creating at the company. cumpany
This notice is purely formal, AR
known creditors have been or known creators as will be paid in full SJ DARGAN LEGAL PUBLIC COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY

NOTICES 0171-782 7344 FAX: 0171-782 7827 Notion are subject to extraodion and about t

RATES Bank Buys 2.13 16.88 49.44 2.224 0.758 7.51 8.17 2.42 395.00 17.50 2.42 10.46 248.00 17.50 11.25 1.02 10.593 2.42 10.46 248.00 11.25 11.26 11.26 11.27

bank notes only as supplied by Barciays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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London SW1P IDH 6 February 1996

In accordance with the standard conditions relating to the payment of dividend No. 90 decisied on 10 January 1996, payments from the office of the United Kingdom Registrar will be made in United and the United Kingdom on 5 February 1996, as advised by the Company's South African bankers.

Kingdom currency at the rate of exchange of R5.5832 South African currency to £1 United Kingdom currency, this being the first available rate of exchange for remittances between the Republic of South Africa The United Kingdom currency equivalent of the dividend (No. 90) of 17 cents per share is therefore 3.04485 pence per share. The state of the s

per pro GOLD FIELDS CORPORATE SERVICES LIMITED S.J. Dunning, Secretary

and the second second

Gold Fields Corporate Services Limited Greencoar House

(2) 20.2 IEC 1 Б : **5**----\$0--i €:... 32 **~** 10

i drostar journey

Mease three fold



☐ British Gas ring-fences its obligations ☐ Collapse of Malcolm Edwards's dream ☐ Dangers of running down staff

□ WE all seem to have stepped into one of those furny little parallel worlds dreamt of by theoretical physicists, where the Spanish Armada won, perhaps, or Rome near fall. or Rome never fell, or Jeremy Beadle became prime minister.

actio stationing

to man in

desper expande

Committee in the inches

Service Control

We used to live in a world where you signed deals and were required to honour them. We

sail happily and profitably into the sunset. The bad bits are lumped together in one big sack, tied up with assets of unquantifiable value, and cast adrift to see if they will float. This may be the easiest way out of the take or pay

awful precedent.

The concept of ring-fencing doubtful debts is an old one, if not especially honourable. You lend a thousand pounds to a substitution of the concept of the content of th subsidiary knowing well that if trading conditions turn sour, the liquidators can be put in how-ever much cash is held by the parent - a hard lesson learned a year ago by creditors of the able — one can only hope.

Athena chain when Pentos put Gas even has its own purpose the shops into receivership.

Through the Looking Glass

thousand by company A. You This neatly diverts attention receive a letter explaining that woke up in a place where a due to difficult trading the business can shrug off its company has been split into responsibilities like a snake company B (quite possibly bust) shedding its skin.

British Gas is splitting in two, with the Government's blessing.

Please note, so the good bits can sail happily and profitsby into

The North Sea producers were always going to have to bear much of the cost of those contracts because neither the consumer nor the taxpayer could if they will float. This may be the accept any pain so close to an easiest way out of the take or pay election, and British Gas could contracts quandary, but it sets an not afford to shoulder the burden

But from now, the tougher the producers are in negotiations, which they say have yet to begin in earnest, the more likely the company holding those contracts is to fold. For this to happen, and for a company of Gas's reput-ation effectively to walk away from its obligations, is unthink-

built scapegoat in Cedric Brown, What British Gas is doing is extending this a step further, creating a sort of remospective return for his contractual entitleeven if his arrival as chairman two years ago did little to stem the group's abrupt decline. Note also the inactivity of well-

rewarded but supine non-exec-utives including Peter, now Lord. Walker. His Energy Department first privatised the brute, with a promise of undying domestic market monopoly that allowed yet more of those disastrous North Sea contracts to be signed subsequently. What a tolerant lot they must be in the British Gas boardroom, to keep him around for so lang.

Dog days for the privatisation ideal

☐ ALLEGATIONS of fraud on the railways, a demerger at British Gas, fat cats in the utility boardrooms, no water in the pipes in Yorkshire. Even Conser-vative ministers admit privately that the ideological crown jewel of privatisation has lost some of

Coal Investments' admin-

PENNINGTON



istrators were keen to point out yesterday that the company is still trading while they examine the options, but the move into legal protection marks a further moment in the souring of the privatisation ideal.

If Coal Investments' troubles are not on the scale of Gas or the trains, this is only because the company is that much smaller. Rooted in the Conservative folk memory of the nationalisation of the pits and the strikes of the early 1970s, coal was seen as the

ultimate privatisation.
As well as freeing the country from the political grip of the miners, it would free British Coal's managers and workforce from the iron grip of statism to grapple with the new world of

has indeed worked out few would now dispute, for example, the claims of Tower Colliery in

South Wales to be a success.

Malcolm Edwards, Brinsh
Coal's former marketing director, looked like he would dominate this new world. Rapidly out of Hobart House after clashing with the chairman, Neil Clarke, Edwards and his Coal Investments sold themselves hard to the City and to the generators as the key player in coal's postprivatisation landscape.

But the fatal blow for Mr Edwards looked to be when England's deep mines were handed out to rival Richard Budge's RJB Mining. Though the company's coal reserves in its pits are greater, if anything, than RIB's, the cost of rejuvenating old capacity, rather than RIB's business of running going-concern pits, has prompted more cashflow difficulties than banks

have been able to stomach.
Accusations of bad faith, broken deals, overconfidence and overselling will now abound, no doubt. But the sorry road to the High Court yesterday may say

energy competition. Some of it as much about the tarnished reality of some privatisations as it does about the company which ended up there.

Stocking up for another recession

□ ONE could be forgiven for seeing Armageddon in yes-terday's slump in manufacturing, but the very dreadfulness of the figures contains the seed of renewed growth.

The sharp contraction in output has probably come as firms meet demand from the huge stock levels built up last year. This aggressive destocking suggests that there is some demand out there. The sooner that stocks return to more normal levels, the sooner growth can resume. This should make the stocks cycle a temporary blip, a matter of timing which does not affect the overall path of the economy.

But therein lies the danger. The current cycle is quite extreme. In the first nine months of last year, around I per cent of the 1.4 per cent growth in GDP was due simply to the build up of stocks. Theoretically, the same will have to come off GDP, and manufacturing may even enter technical recession. It is then crucial how companies react in

terms of staffing levels. If they ride out the stocks cycle and hang on to staff, they can probably look forward to a bright second half. But if they start to shed labour - and the

announcement by Jaguar yes-terday is a warning — the outlook is rather less promising. Jobs go, consumer confidence and spending falls, the Chan-cellor misses his growth and public borrowing targets, taxes do not fall again in the autumn. Calamity for the Government, for the economy, and for us all.

First principle

CI ALISTAIR DEFRIEZ at SBC Warburg helped defend Forte in a battle that was ultimately lost in part because Granada promised to pay a special dividend out of Forte's funds. Mr Defriez is now at the Takeover Panel, the first principle of whose code states that all shareholders must be treated equally - a principle apparently contravened by such dividends, which offer tax advantages to some. Mr Defriez said last night it was too early for coincidence. No doubt eventually he will get around to it.

BSkyB plans to offer pay-per-view channels

BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, said that it planned to introduce pay-per-view pro-gramming by the end of this year and confirmed that it wanted to supply news to the ITY network.

Information on the expansion plans of BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of The Times, came as the company reported its strongest set of interim profits since its formation in 1990. It also announced a maiden interim dividend of

2.5p. BSkyB said it would launch the pay-per-view channels in analogue form once it found enough spectrum space. Items to be broadcast would include films and sporting events. The same film, for example, could be broadcast every 30 minutes in the evening, allowing subscrib-ers to pick their viewing time. Sam Chisholm, chief execu-

tive, said that the pay-per-view service will create a brand Meanwhile, the company is pressing ahead with plans to

start digital services, a move

that would greatly expand the number of channels on offer. David Elstein, head of programming, said that BSkyB was seeking to end the monopoly held by Independent Television News in supplying news to TTV. The Broadcasting Act 1993 called for competition in that business. ITV's current contract with ITN.



Sam Chisholm announcing a profit rise yesterday

worth about £57 million a Earnings per share were 5.6p year, expires next year. BSkyB's pre-tax profit for

the half year to the end of December almost doubled to £106.3 million on turnover of

£464 million, up 30 per cent.

against 3.3p.

A sharp rise in the number of subscribers was behind the results. BSkyB took on a

Revenue from direct-to-home satellite customers rose 26 per cent to £337.8 million, while advertising revenue was up 18 per cent to £50.7 million.
The interim dividend will be

paid on April II. The shares closed down 22p at 392p. Traders said the decision by John Bridgeman, Director-General of Fair Trading, to refer BSkyB's agreement covering TV rights to Premier League football matches to the Restrictive Practices Court was behind the share slide. DGMTV, the breakfast station launched in 1993, reported its first profits yesterday and said that the worst trading days were behind it.

The company had an oper-ating profit of El million in 1995, against a loss of £1.6 million in 1994 and E10.8 million previous year. It said that the turnround was down advertising revenue, to £80 million, plus a substantial increase in programme sponsorship revenue.

GMTV was also able to repay a £4 million loan to its owners, Carlton Communications, Granada, Scottish Television, Guardian Media Group and the Walt Disney

Last year's profits came after payments of £48 million, covering the licence fee and a percentage of advertising revenue; to the Government. GMTV hopes to negotiate lower payments in 1999.

Matthey in \$40m hi-tech **US** deal

JOHNSON MATTHEY, the industrial holding company, is adding to its burgeoning interests in advanced technology materials with the acqui-sition of the in-house printed circuit board (PCBs) interests of Cray Research in America for \$40 million.

The proposed acquisition stems from Johnson Matthey's \$170 million acquisition of Advanced Circuits, a market leader in high-technology PCBs and in plastic laminate packaging for semiconductors. Under the Cray deal, Johnson Matthey will acquire land, buildings, plant and machinery, and a workforce of around 350 people. The Cray facility at Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, is considered one of the most advanced in America. Johnson Matthey shares

rose 2p to 561p yesterday. Tempus, page 28

By MARTIN BARROW BRITISH Telecom will today

unveil a strategic alliance with RWE and Viag, two leading German utility companies, as it seeks to expand its international business. The joint venture will offer

services over fixed networks for business and private customers in Germany, and will operate independently of BT's Viag Interkom venture established last year.

The first stage would involve forming a joint network company that would combine fixed network activities in Germany. This could be expanded to include mobile phone services and satellite communications.

The three companies will sign a letter of intent in Bonn today, with a final agreement expected by the middle of this year. Neither RWE nor Viag



BT alliance to expand

services in Germany

Bonfield: EC request

has a mobile phone concession in Germany, but it is expected they will bid when the next licence is awarded.

RWE had previously been a shareholder in CNI Communications Network International, a joint venture with Mannesmann and Deutsche

Bank but pulled out over differences in strategy and control with Mannesmann. CNI has subsequently signed a letter of intent to form an alliance with Unisource, a joint venture between Ameri-ca's AT&T, Swedish group Telia and the main telephone operators in The Netherlands. Spain and Switzerland.

BT, whose chief executive is Sir Peter Bonfield, yesterday asked the European Commission to examine the competition implications of North American technology being used by Unisource to provide one-stop telecoms services to multinational corporations.

BT believes that Unisource is likely to adopt AT&T soft-ware and standards for services such as private voice networks and fears this could lock the European partners into buying American hardware, restricting competition.

Eurostar journeys increase threefold

By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

MORE than 1,000 high-speed shuttle trains last month Eurostar passenger trains passed through the Channel Tunnel between London, Paris and Brussels last month, a threefold increase over January last year. Eurotunnel an-

nounced yesterday.
A total of 1,071 high-speed Eurostars sped through the tunnel in January, against just 318 in January 1995.

There were also dramatic increases in the number of cars, motorcycles, trailers, caravans, campervans and coaches using Eurotunnel's shuttle trains, with an increase from 45,352 vehicles in January 1995 to 98,799 last month.

A total of 45,763 trucks went through the tunnel on freight

more than double the 20,739 of January 1995. Through-freight trains last month totalled 536,

up from 368 in January 1995. The figures remain far short of forecasts made at the time of the 1994 rights issue. Just over three million passengers used Eurostar last year, against a forecast 9.2 million in Eurotunnel's prospectus. Five mil-lion passengers are expected to use the train in 1996.

The prospectus also forecast total freight traffic of 11.14 million gross tonnes in 1995. Latest government figures suggest an actual figure of about 4.5 million tonnes.

Record \$3.1m fine for Sara Lee

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN WASHINGTON

SARA LEE, the American consumer products company. has been ordered to pay a record \$3.1 million fine for failing to notify US antitrust authorities before the acquisition of assets from Reckett and Colman.

The Justice Department filed the suit and settlement agree-ment in the US District Court. claiming that Sara Lee violated antitrust notification requirements with its 1991 purchase of the shoe care products division of Reckitt & Colman for about \$25.8 million. The complaint said that the contract failed to provide a fair market value for the US assets.

Sara Lee gave a low estimate Tempus, page 28 | of the US assets, claiming that

it was not required to report the transaction because the assets were worth less than the

\$15 million limit. At the time of the acquisition, Sara Lee and its Kiwi division had a 90 per cent share of the US shoe polish market - Reckitt & Colman's Griffin was one of the few remaining compeniors.

"The law is simple and clear. So is Sara Lee's violation," said Anne Bingham. assistant attorney general. "Sara Lee flouted its legal requirements in order to frustrate legal scrutiny."

Officials said the penalty was the highest ever imposed under the 1976 Hart-Rodino

The bargain bargain.

(£25 for a £2,500 deal)

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completely open debate and I hope the MPs will take part so they can see it constitutes

what they are calling for." Professor Uff, an engineering expert with arbitration ex-

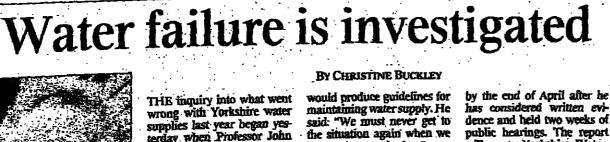
have to have tankering."

Last year. Yorkshire Water, whose leakage rate has been calculated at 33 per cent, one of the highest in the developed world, ran tankers from the Tees to maintain supplies after last year's dry summer lowered reservoir stocks to

Professor Uff aims to deliver his report, which will have fundamental implications for all perience, said that the inquiry privatised water companies,

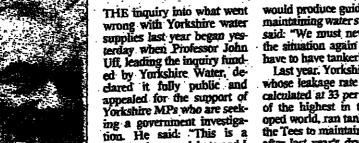
has considered written evidence and held two weeks of public hearings. The report will go to Yorkshire Water, whose chairman, Sir Gordon Jones, last year said that he wished to leave before his compulsory retirement date of next year, and to contributors. Professor Uff said that he was

domain swiftly.
Yorkshire Water said it hoped the inquiry will lead to the creation of standards of



confident that the report would pass into the public about 10 per cent of capacity.

service for the industry.



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News of Gas demerger fails to excite investors

IF the measures taken by British Gas to sort out its far reaching problems had been designed to impress the stock market, they failed miserably.

Traders appeared perplexed by the news and the equity market spent another cautious session. But it gave investors the opportunity to recover their poise after Monday's sharp falls.

Share prices generally trad-ed in a 12-point band and not even an early jump in the fortunes of the Dow Jones average could inject new life into a tired looking market. The FT-SE 100 index closed

virtually all square, ending just 0.9 of a point better at 3,747.5. Turnover reached 833 million shares, helped by heavy trading in British Gas where 53.8 million shares had changed hands by the close. Genuine retail support remained thin on the ground

In early trading British Gas touched 253p, with market-makers ready to take a positive line on the proposed split and departure of the much criticised Cedric Brown, as chief executive.

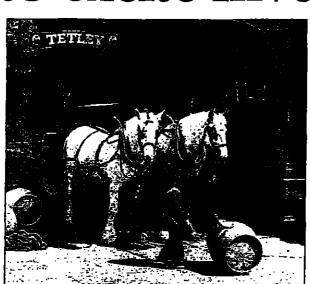
Not everyone was pleased with the move. Some analysts were quick to pour scorn on the decision to put the Morecambe Bay gasfield into the British Gas Energy division. In the event, shares of British Gas closed 2p easier at 2424p.

There was not much else in the way of good news around to cheer investors. Depressed sales of spirits and the effects of recent disposals among its food interests have taken their toll of Allied Domeeq, whose interests include Tetley's beer. Shares in the food and drinks group fell 82p to 5062p after it gave warning that profits in the first six months of the year would be down by around 20

Brokers immediately downgraded their profit estimates. with most of them now looking for between £575 million and £620 million at the pre-tax level, compared with £635 million last time.

ker, also expects that the company will have to cut last year's dividend payout of 39.35p by about a third.

The warning came at the annual meeting. group's where Michael Jackaman, chairman, told shareholders remain difficult and that Mexican profits in sterling terms



Allied Domecq shares fell 10p on a profits warning

are down. Profits would also be hit by cuts to both jobs and stock levels throughout its supply chain.

Analysts were also considering the possibility of lowering their profit forecasts for BSkyB after the news that the Office of Fair Trading had referred the group's two exclusive agreements to screen Pre-

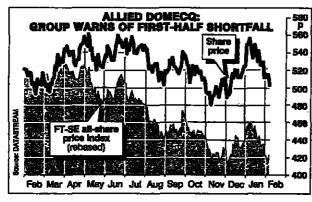
en interim dividend of 2.5p, with Sam Chisholm claiming there was further scope for increased revenues and profits

in the second half. The BSkyB share price finished 22p down at 392p, with brokers worried by the growing prospect of regula-tory interference which could affect the group's long-term mier League football to the earnings potential.

Vaux, the pubs to nursing homes group, fell 8p to 283p as 355,010 shares were traded in a market where dealers normally make a price in 5,000 shares at a time. The group gave a presentation to brokers and failed to make much of an impression. It seems that occupancy levels in its nursing homes are on the slide.

Restrictive Practices Court. The OFT said both deals contained significant restrictions on competition. The move came on the day when BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of The Times, reported an impressive set of half-year figures showing pre-tax profits surging from £55 million to £106.3 million. The figures were accompanied by a maid-

Signs that Eurotunnel may be starting to pull ahead on the battle for cross-Channel ferry traffic lifted its shares 5p to 79p. The latest traffic figures show Le Shuttle doubled the number of cars it carried during January, to 96,971. A total of 1.2 million cars were transported during 1995, which brokers said gave it about 40 per cent of Channel traffic.



unperturbed, finishing 3g firmer at 54lp.

هكذا من الدعل

Frost Group, the petro retailer, clawed back some of its recent losses with a rise of 8p to 123p as it emerged that Mercury Asset Management had taken advantage of the weak share price to mop up a further 1.7 million shares. This takes its total holding to 14.5 million, or 15.4 per cent. Prost has been a casualty of the recent petrol price war.

Johnson Matthey climbed 8p to 567p after announcing it was buying the in-house printed circuit board operations of Cray Research for \$40 million. The group gave a briefing to brokers after the announcement and left them with a favourable impression.

A threat by Beazer Homes to pike the proposed acquisition of Trafalgar House's Ideal Homes by Persimmon failed to rattle the latter, whose shares finished unchanged at

Beazer complained it has not had enough time to top Beazer's £170 million offer but intended to renew its interest. Trafalgar finished Ip cheaper at 314 p while Beazer firmed . קב'173 or קבו

RTZ, the mining finance group, slipped 5p to 943p on suggestions that James Capel, the broker, had reduced its recommendation from a

"hold" to a "buy". Nervous selling also lef Maid, the recent high-flyer l6p down at 153p. Only las month the shares were chan ing hands at 229p and la year trading at 354p.
□ GILT-EDGED: A bette performance was enjoyed as investors took the view that Monday's losses had been

overdone. Prices opened firm er and sentiment was cheered by news of a drop in manufac turing output last month Banks and building societie were reported to be activ buyers of stock trading in the five to seven year range.
In the futures pit, the March

series of the long gilt jumped £1332 to £1082932 as the total In the cash market, Tre

sury 8 per cent 2013 rose £71 to £100316, while at the shorte end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 □ NEW YORK: Shares on Wall Street continued to rise with the Dow Jones industria average 25.65 points higher at 5,433.24 by midday.

	Supplied the second sec
	New York (midday):
	Dow Jones
	Dow Jones 5433.24 (+25.65) S&P Composite 643.47 (+2.04)
	Tokyo: Nikel Average
	Hong Kong: Hang Seng
	127120 (72/4)
	Amsterdam: 502.73 (+4.30)
	Sydney:
	AO 2269.7 (-2.0)
	Sydney: 2269.7 (-2.0) Frankfurt:
	DAX 2428.28 (+9.27)
	Frankfurt: 2428.28 (+9.27) Singapore:
•	Straits 2093.71 (+9.70)
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- 1	Bank of England official close (4pm)
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Oxford Mol n/p (235) . 92

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<u> </u>	Eurothern 583p (+24p)
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-	Redland 4070 (±12n)
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a١	FALLS:
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il	Allied Domecq 506'zp (-8'zp)
- 1	Scotia 581p (-9:p)
t	
ı	Closing Prices Page 31

In need of allies

of the Gryphon field in the North Sea at a price equiva-

lent to \$7.50 per barrel. More

interesting is the scape to

increase reserves through

low-risk exploration. High

Indonesian tax rates carry the benefit of full deduction

of exploration costs and

Clyde reckons the two wells

it will drill this year carry a net cost of only \$500,000.

IT SEEMS sadly appropriate that Michael Jackaman's farewell speech should contain a warning that Allied Domeco's interim profits will fall 20 per cent. Having landed the top job almost five years ago after the company made big losses in foreign exchange, he has presided over a lengthy period of stagnation.

Profits have remained flat, the share price

has gone nowhere and the company's stock market value of around £5.3 billion is little changed since late 1991, despite the £700. million Domeco acquisition. Shareholders who attended yesterday's annual meeting to see Jackaman hand the baton to Sir Christo-pher Hogg had little for which to be grateful, even before the warning. Most accept that it will take more than a change of chairmanship

Allied's investment timing could certainly

have been better. Domecq increased its exposure to markets in Spain and Mexico just as the former entered recession and the latter became insolvent

The Carlsberg Tesley joint venture in UK brewing is big, but not big enough to dictate terms to the market and its brands are unloved. Potential buyers are scarce and the scenario is unlikely to change, at least until the market impact of Scottish & Newcastle's

Courage takeover is clearer. Spirits will continue to be dogged by sluggish demand in the main markets, where Allied's brand portfolio is often second best. High street names such as Big Steak Pubs and Dunkin' Donuts do not set consumers' pulses racing. Fundamental change is required if Allied shares are to benefit from a

Clyde's strategy is to pick up the scraps discarded by

major oil companies. Kakan fits the bill, being too small to justify the overheads of a Marathon. Under Clyde's

lean management, the num-

ber of expatriate staff will fail

by a third and the company

hopes to make a 20 per cent

return with profits from ex-

55

ploration on top

CLYDE GOES EAST

Clyde Petroleum

KNOWN best for its skill in squeezing more oil out of mature North Sea fields. Clyde Petroleum's decision to operate the Kakap field in Indonesia might seem rash. For oil companies, Indone sia is a notoriously harsh regime with typical production-sharing contracts reserving 85 per cent of the price of every barrel sold to the Government. Investors will also be aware that Clyde is investing in a field where big brother Lasmo recently sold a stake. However, Clyde argues that a strategy that makes money from mature assets in The Netherlands also applies further afield.

The price — struck at about \$3.50 per barrel for Clyde's il million barrel net interest - looks sensible. especially when compared with its sale last year of part

Johnson Matthey IN A curious twist of fate and plastic packaging, a market worth \$170 million in the after decades of disappointment and public money down the tube. Britain now. current year with a projected growth rate of 100 per cent. boasts an engineering company with a leading position in the semiconductor indus-

try. Through its newly acquired US subsidiary, ACL Johnson Matthey will become the biggest producer of laminate packaging for semiconductors. JM is not quite there yet production is still in the low

thousands — but what has changed with yesterday's purchase of a factory from Cray is the speed at which ACI will be able to deliver. Previously, JM believed that it would take two and a half years to build a factory from production but JM reckons it will be working flat out within a year.
If JM is to be believed, the

potential is staggering with annual sales of \$100 million

is expected because major companies, such as Intel. are converting from ceramic to

That would transform IM's electronics material division. The technology is not unique — two Japanese com-panies are capable of producing laminate packaging but JM's advantage, for the moment, is speed. With the Cray factory, it is probably a year ahead of its competitors and in this industry, early birds

Eurotunnel

trouble Eurotunnel is that its success-es simply do not matter. Yesterday's traffic figures showed dramatic year-onyear gains in passenger and freight volumes but these are a molehill of good news compared with its mountain of debt.

otic tilts at two governments, three national railway systems and 225 banks are entertaining but time is running out for Eurotunnel. Interest on the £8 billion of borrow-

ings is accumulating at the rate of £600 million a year. Interest on the deferred interest shovels another £50 million a year on to the pile.

Having been rebuffed by the French and British Governments over a bizarre scheme for a state underwritten megabond to pay off the banks. Sir Alastair is beginming to run out of options.

Any suggestion that the Lab-

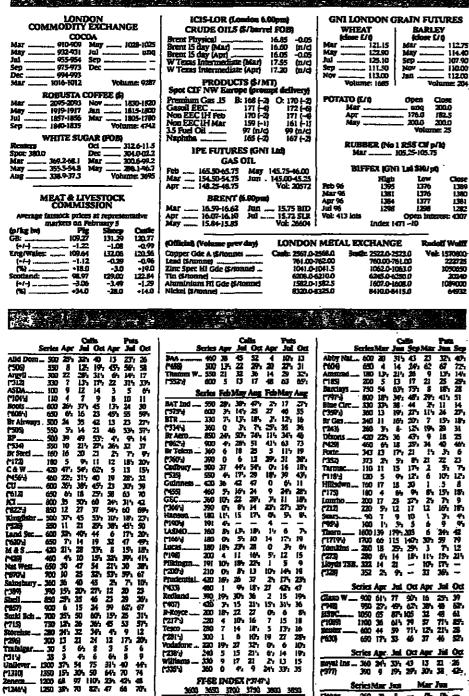
our Party might come to the

rescue after the next election is clutching at straws. unlikely to be attracted to the idea of bailing out shareholders in Eurotunnel, a project that was a showpiece of Thatcherite private finance. In any event, Gordon Brown is unlikely to get the keys to the Treasury in time.

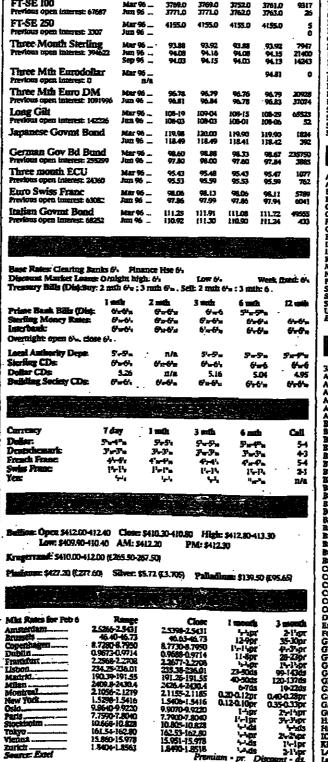
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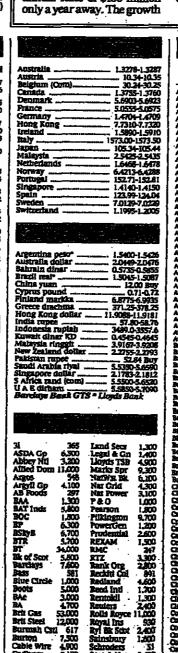
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Sir Alastair Morton's quix- EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

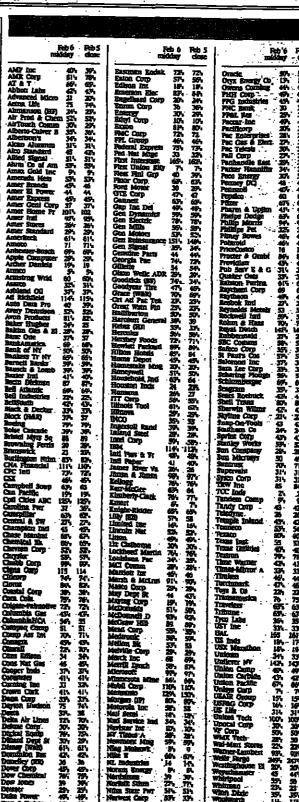


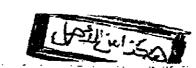
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LASMO 663 Wolseley 1.000 Lactbroke 2.300 Zeneca 2.400			





Cedric waves goodbye to tact

CEDRIC BROWN, who has managed to irritate most of British Gas's 1.8 million shareholders and many of its 19 million customers was in danger yesterday of offending the most important man at the privatised company — Richard Giordano — who will effectively be chairman and chief executive

from May. Brown insisted he is retiring because British Gas will be turning itself into Siamese twins and "new management teams will be appointed ... and they will want two young chief executives".

He added: "They don't want old men staggering around." If Giordano didn't wince

at the man on whom he had just lavished praise, he should have. Brown, who was born

on March 7, 1935, is almost a year his junior. His grand "old" chairman Giordano turns 62 on March 24.

Sitting uneasily

THE sale by Hambros Bank of its mining subsidiary brings with it some unexpected dividends. Hugh Jenkins, the former investment director of the Prudential, has found office space within Ham-bros Tower Hill premises. for the time being at least. Jenkins, who is non-executive director of such organisations as Rank, Thorn EMI and Gartmore, as well as being the chairman of Hambros Falcon property trust, should not get too comfortable, however, as the bank is planning to move the occupants of its Brentwood office down to Tower Hill and, of course, there could well be increasing competition for



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"We are demerging the profit account from the loss account"

New ball game. BRIAN QUINN has been

hailed a "missionary" at the Bank of England where he has worked for 26 years, latterly responsible for banking supervision and surveillance. He retires on February 29, and the next day joins his beloved Celtic Football Club as non-executive director and vice-chairman. A bank colleague said Quinn "tried to convert everyone, and even put a green and white poster in his PA's office".

Starter for £2,000

CITY types will be brushing up their buzzer skills for the St John Ambulance annual Brain Game general knowledge quiz at the Guildhall tomorrow, won last year by law firm Allen & Overy. For the fourth year running, the ques-tion-master will be sports commentator Dickie Davies. At £2,000 a team ticket, it's all to raise £50,000 for St John Ambulance, the Lord Mayor's charity.

Appealing idea

MICHAEL JACKAMAN. who is standing down at the end of March as chairman of Allied Domeog, has decided how he will be spending his retirement. He is to be chairman of an appeal to raise £20 million for a new children's hospiral in Bristol.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Demerger offers lifeline for dinosaur monopoly

Ross Tieman looks at how British Gas has had to come to terms with a more competitive market

en years after flotation as a vast monopoly, British Gas is breaking itself up. The decision to demerge the business that supplies gas to 19 million homes and a third of Britain's businesses is a logical response to the piecemeal introduction of competition over the past decade.

With the last vestiges of its guaranteed market on the verge of being prised open, the board, under Ameri-can Richard Giordano, has concluded that British Gas is a dinosaur, incapable of survival in today's cutthroat world. Only by reinventing itself, in two parts, can it thrive.

At a special meeting in April next year, the company's 1.8 million shareholders will be asked to approve the

creation of a new listed company.

Provisionally called British Gas
Energy, this will contain the gas
supply business, selling gas to families and businesses; the service business, looking after appliance maintenance; a gas trading arm, called Accord; and the North and South Morecambe gasfields, accounting for 15 per cent of United Kingdom

peak demand. If the proposal is approved by holders of 51 per cent of British Gas shares, the company's investors will receive free shares in British Gas Energy. They will also retain their shares in the far larger residual business, provisionally named

TransCo International This will own the pipeline system. delivering gas for shippers, including British Gas Energy, in return for fees. It will also own the rest of British Gas's exploration, production and distribution activities - concentrated in Asia, South America and Eastern Europe — and its gas-fired power

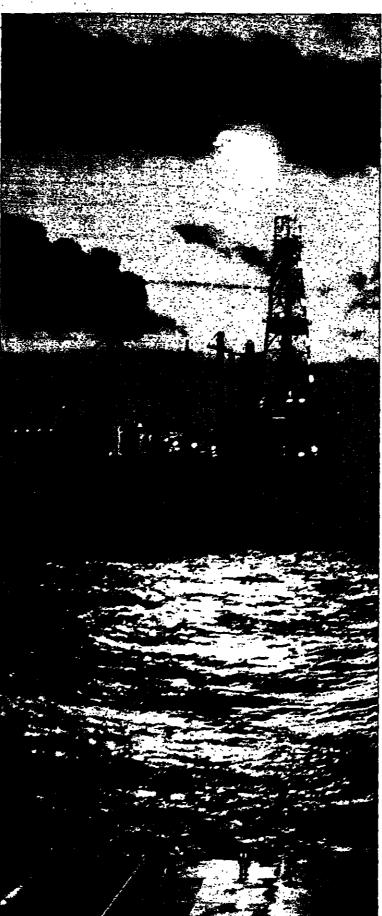
stations in Britain and overseas. Such an outcome would have been inconceivable on that day 30 years ago, when the first gas from the newly discovered southern North Sea basin was piped ashore.

In the two decades that followed, Britain's coal-grimed town centre gasworks, with their coking ovens and gasometers, were progressively levelled. In their place, British Gas'a state-owned monopoly, built a high-pressure network of pipelines and mains beneath the streets, delivering natural gas to almost every sizeable town in England, Wales and southern Scotland.

It was a formidable engineering achievement, and the envy of many countries overseas. At privatisation, in 1986, gas had come to account for 50 per cent of Britain's primary energy consumption, from just seven per cent two decades earlier.

By the time the Government got around to selling British Gas with its celebrated "Tell Sid" advertising campaign in 1986, many politicians and academics already had their doubts about privatising monopolies. When British Telecom was sold two years earlier, the Government had licensed Mercury Communications, owned by Cable and Wireless, to build a rival phone network.

But intense lobbying by Sir Denis Rooke, the tough and abrasive British Gas chairman, combined with the desire of Lord Walker, the then Energy Secretary, to maximise proceeds from the sale. It was inconceiv-



British Gas intends to split its operations into two separate companies

able that anyone could afford to build a rival pipeline network. Gas distribution was deemed a "natural" monopoly and left intact. The company was sold with a 25-year monopoly of the gas market under 25,000 therms, giving only big business the right to choose alternative suppliers.

But once the Government had tucked away its £5.43 billion sale proceeds, the gas regulator, Sir James McKinnon, quickly began to pick Although Sir Denis and his succes-

away at this cosy arrangement. sors resisted at every turn, Sir James gradually turned competition into reality for business customers. He forced British Gas to charge realistic

snipped away at the myriad bindings that impeded efforts by customers to buy their gas elsewhere.

Because of its statutory obligation to ensure that gas supplies would be maintained, even on the coldest winter day, British Gas bought virtually all the North Sea gas output. on contracts lasting up to 40 years. At one point, Sir James was obliged to introduce a "gas release" scheme, simply so that rivals could obtain adequate supplies.

This stubborn resistance to competition sowed the seeds of British Gas's biggest troubles today. Producers responded by putting in hand the development of massive new capaciprices for gas delivery, and also ty. Today, the spot price of gas has

Far cheaper and more effect-

strated, can add no benefit to

the problem, but only exacer-

bate an already complicated situation. By all means use

Andrew Large as a scapegoat.

but can his successor fare any

regulators we had caveat emp-tor, which did us well for

many years. Why fix some-

hope, may well delay joining

the dole queue; while many women who take on short-

term part-time jobs find it too

much trouble to register as

unemployed when these jobs

thing that is not broken?

(Independent Financial

Yours faithfully.

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Farnham, Surrey.

are not available.

will ever be closed.

J. T. BECKFORD.

Cheitenham,

112 Churchill Road,

K. D. BOYD,

Advisers).

Human factors in the employment equation

Holt Pound,

better? Before such things as

British Gas has more fuel than its diminishing band of customers can burn. Moreover, it is paying more than the market price for the fuel. Quite why British Gas continued

signing long-term contracts despite mounting evidence that the Govern-ment would tear up its monopoly remains a puzzle. Successive reports from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission showed which way the wind was blowing. The first, in 1988. obliged the company to publish tariffs to industrial and commercial users, paving the way for a massive loss of market share.

In a surprise move in May 1992,
Tim Eggar, the Energy Minister,
abruptly cut the competition threshold from 25,000 therms to 2,500
therms. A subsequent two-year inquiry, triggered in July by Cedric Brown, chief executive, in an effort to clarify the pace at which competition was to spread, tore up the privatisation deal.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission concluded that British Gas should be obliged to separate its pipelines business from its supply arm, so that the entire market, including 19 million homes, could be opened to competition. But the timetable for the separation was to be a gentle one, stretching into the next century to minimise the trauma.

Ministers bought the idea, but spurned the patience. The Government then drafted a new Gas Act, passed last autumn, which opens the household market to compension progressively by January I, 1999. A pilot trial for the phased opening, embracing half a million homes in the South West, is running late but is set to start in May or June this year.

TransCo. operator of British Gas's £18 billion pipeline network, is already, to all intents and purposes, a stand-alone company. It generates profits of around £700 million a year in spite of its prices being capped by the regulator. TransCo is the cashcow funding overseas expansion in oil/gas exploration and production. distribution and power generation. These businesses, which will form TransCo International, are the heart of the existing British Gas.

emerging British Gas Energy is largely designed to spin off the problems arising from the company's failure to respond effectively to the faster than expected loss of its monopoly. Since being allowed to abandon publication of tariffs, British Gas Energy has arrested the decline of its share of commercial and industrial markets at 35 per cent. But its deliveries to households can only fall as competition takes root.

That will increase the company's gas surplus, making it all the more urgent to renegotiate take-or-pay contracts with North Sea gas producers. which are also being dumped in BGE. To offset these liabilities, currently estimated at £1.5 billion, BGE will be bolstered with the key assets of

British Gas's Morecambe gasfields in the Irish Sea. All these uncertainties and liabilities will make for an explosive cocktail. Shares in BGE will be a speculator's play: not for the faint hearted, and certainly not for widows and orphans.

Even TransCo International will be a far cry from the steady-as-she-goes utility sold to the public in 1986. But with Cedric Brown, 40 years in the industry, goes the last of the British Gas old guard. The new companies will have younger managers, trained in the private sector.

At last British Gas has bowed to the logic of its increasingly competitive market. Perhaps the new companies may at last begin to reward, rather than fail, their shareholders.

Post Office still delivering in political storm

Privatisation of the Royal Mail is an issue once more, Philip Bassett says

n the next few weeks. business and consumers will receive an unhappy jolt to outgoings when the Post Office announces a price rise - of probably lp on stamps -- which will also affect the Government's

efforts to control inflation.

Politics and the post are interwoven, and the two come into play today when MPs debate the future of the Post Office. The Laboursponsored debate has been prompted by the raising once again, by the Prime Minister, of the possibility of privatising the Post Office. John Major last month surprised many Conservative MPs when he said that the Government would consider whether to include a new attempt to privatise the Royal Mail in its general

election manifesto. "I think it will be in," says one minister. "The benefits of including it are twofold: it takes the agenda forward. and shows we are not being complacent. And it does give a positive focus on privatisation, after a couple of years in

cause of British Gas and other things — it has not gone as should." After failing

to privatise the Post Office two years ago, when, in spite of efforts led by Michael

Heseltine, ministers could not muster a majority of its own backbenchers for the move, returning to the issue might appear to be somewhere between brave and desperate. Labour will argue that Mr

Major's suggestion, which followed similar musings by Mr Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is engendered by internal politics of the Conservative Party — John Major's need to offer some red meat to the Tory Right Kim Howells, Labour's

spokesman on the Post Office, says: "This is entirely driven by Major's desire to emphasise that he is not scared to take on the most controversial issues."

Phillip Oppenheim, the Industry Minister, will attack what he sees as Labour's lack of detailed. practical policy on the Post Office and will emphasise the Post Office's performance under the Conservatives, and says: "There is a strong case on investment

by the Post Office, which, in real terms, is double what it was 15 years ago."

The Government's aim is to give the Post Office as much commercial freedom as it can, without going as far as the Post Office wants We're not going to allow them to sell condoms," says one Department of Trade and Industry source -because of the effect on competitors of a Post Office

free to do whatever it likes in the high street. Labour's problem with the Post Office is as acute, and in some ways a test of whether some policies promoted by Tony Blair work in practice. For a Labour government, would there be a realistic middle way between the two extremes that Mr Blair rejects, of untram-

atisation, and of the old nat-ionalised control? Both political parties, too. face the difficulty of weaning themselves off the cash that the Post Office provides

6 The next

election is

crucial for

postal

services 🤊

elled free markets and priv-

for the Treasury. To the annoyance of its senior managers, the Post contributing close to El billion over the next three years to the Government's

cash flow. They doubt that Labour could resist the milch cow any more than can the Conservatives.

When Bill Cockburn was its chief executive, the Post painted itself into a corner seeking privatisation, and with nowhere to go when denied it. Mr Cockburn is now with WH Smith, and his successor, John Roberts. wants to draw a line under the insecurity of the past three years, while the Government considered its future, and to concentrate on winning business in Europe and the US, as European postal businesses and other communications eat into the Post Office's market.

If that means rejection of Mr Major's dalliance with privatisation, so be it. Post Office managers calculate that, to proceed, the Government would need to be reelected with a majority of 20. and consider that unlikely on poll evidence. So the Post Office is buckling down to business, leaving the politicians to it, but knowing that the next election is crucial for Britain's postal services.

BUSINESSIETERS

The village that was all but lost

From Helen J. A. Gibbons Sir. It was good of Tempus to elevate the village of Ashtead to a Surrey town, namesake of Ashtead Group pic (Business

News. February I).

Thanks to overzealous parking restrictions in the late 1980s, followed by attempts by landlords to massively hike rent reviews, the village of Ashtead was all but

In space of a few years, the butcher, baker, watchmaker, ironmonger, cobbler, confectioner, travel agent and others disappeared. Some are now returning to join the public houses (three) and banks (five) able to ride the recession. Yours faithfully, HELEN GIBBONS. 10 Greveoaf Place, SWIP ISB.

From Mr Noel Falconer

Sir. By what authority does

Alliance & Leicester propose to

discriminate between its mem-

bers "Free share bonanza for

A&L members," (February 1)?

This must surely be in a form

that the courts will recognise.

Approval by the Building Soci-

eties Commission looks less

than adequate. Retrospective-

action, after gaining from the

as A&L has, with specula-

A&L flotation requires legitimate authority

situation that is being altered NOEL FALCONER

tive deposits - is a breach of Hazel Grove, Stockport.

The responsibility for mis-selling and compensation

From Mr K. D. Boyd Sir, I believe regulation will never work. The pensions misselling arose largely because regulation of pensions. Now a scapegoat must be found. The next phase of this idiocy will occur when actuaries in charge of pension funds are

Satisfied pension policyholders need protection

From Mr Robin Hill

asked to reinstate those mis- be legion, adding further to delay, fudge and compromise.

sold. Actuaries, as you know, are honourable men and none is going to take advantage of Andrew Large and others the current position by de-failed to see the pitfalls of de-manding impossibly high remanding impossibly high reinstatement figures. Nor are they going to quote identical figures for identical misselling. The opportunities to argue and not act are going to

policies, particularly those

Sir, Much is being said on behalf of those who may have suffered through the alleged "mis-selling" of pensions but nothing on behalf of the very many long-established policyholders who are well satisfied with the advice received but are understandably concerned about the possible effect of any compensation payments on the performance of their own

natural justice, that may be

appealed to the Court of

pany law, treating members

differently, benefiting only

some from a common re-

source, is a "fraud on the

minority" - less grave than it

sounds but which cannot, in

these circumstances. be

legitimised by an AGM.

223 Bramhall Moor Lane.

Yours faithfully,

Human Rights. In UK com-

ive would be for responsibility for compensation to be placed in the hands where it belongs. ie, the consumer rather than the regulator. The PIA, for instance, as it has demon-

with mutual societies. We are innocent bystanders and must be protected. Who

is representing this majority interest and what assurances can be given that existing policyholders will suffer no loss over this issue? Yours faithfully. ROBIN HILL Southdown House, Lower Froyle, Alton, Hants.

From J. T. Beckford

Sir. Why make such a mystery

of the continued discrepancy

between LFS and unemploy-

ment statistics ("Would real

earnings growth spell economic suicide?", January 30).

Some employers, in the

interest of downsizing prestige

and a tendency to discount

casual or part-time labour,

will deliberately minimise

their workforce. At the same

time, those recently laid off,

for reasons of pride, shame or Gloucestershire.

Tecs in favour of efficiency survey From Mr Chris Humphries

Sir, Your article "Freedom for Tecs urged in call for savings" (January 22, 1996) misrepresents the reaction of Tees to the recently published Efficiency Scrutiny.

Tecs have supported the conduct of the Efficiency Scrutiny since its outset in its attempt to simplify the level of imposed bureaucracy which surrounds their operation, and frustrates employers and training providers in serving the needs of staff and clients. Throughout the report, the

need to maintain adequate levels of accountability for public funds is acknowledged. and the report seeks to identify ways by which that can be achieved whilst reducing unnecessary administrative burdens.

It was, in fact, the Tec National Council which wrote to Ministers asking that the report be implemented in full, and that there be "no cherrypicking" (aithough we didn't use that phrasel. Ministers have, in turn, indicated to the council that they will give the report their fullest consider-

These human factors make Yours faithfully. CHRIS HUMPHRIES, it seem unlikely that the "gap" Director of Policy and Strategy, Tec National Council Westminster Tower, 3 Albert Embankment,

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ΥX



Why Docklands is back in demand



A home in the city's heart

RICHARD JONES, a fi- towards their legal and nancial adviser who has a ten-minute trip to the City, and his wife Julie, a nurse, bought their £79,995 flat at Sovereign View, a new development, last year. The mortgage payments were cheaper than the rent on their previous three-bed-room flat in Bermondsey.

The £30 million development on the Thames in Rotherhithe (London SEI6) is now sold out. Mr Jones says: "We're investing in our own property for the first time. It is very satisfying to think that ultimately we will own the flat. The rent was effectively dead money." Moreover, the developers. Barratt, paid £300 further 83 houses and flats.

survey fees. Mr Jones says: "Rotherhithe is a fabulous place to bring up kids. There are playgrounds, a City Farm, walks and nature reserves, and from our window we can see swans and passing boats." The Joneses even find the light at Sovereign View different. Their flat overlooks a particularly wide stretch of a curve of the Thames.

All 300 homes at Sovereign View have been sold ahead of the building pro-gramme and Barratt has acquired the adjoining riverside site, Pageant Steps. where it has started a

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The second secon

Rachel Kelly on the rising popularity and prices of London's new riverside area

ondon's Docklands is conforming to one of the oldest laws of the property jungle: that cities develop after the bankruptcy of their first developers.
Only now, nearly a decade after the first Thatcher-backed development in the area, are there signs of a sustained, market-led demand. A second wave of investors and builders

is now in the market. Agents are reporting offplan sales, overnight queues for property, and the arrival of an older and more cautious buver. The recovery has followed a pick-up in the commercial property market and the completion of key infra-structure projects such as the Limehouse Link road tunnel.

Last year saw the successful sale of Canary Wharf to a consortium led by Paul Reichmann, and the tower is now 76 per cent let. The recovery is being led by the developers Barran, Regalian, Bellway and Berkeley Homes. and Galliard Homes, which specialises in buying sites from receivers, doing them up and selling them on.

Builders are keen to start developments before the London Docklands Development Corporation is wound down in 1999. Planning permission will thereafter be given by the borough of Tower Hamiets. . Prices are still below their

-1988 peak, but 20 per cent up on their 1992 low. For example, at the Circle development in Shad Thames, a flat in 1988 would have cost £200,000. The same flat would have fetched £70,000 in 1992, and now costs £110,000, according to the agents Cluttons. At the Vogen's Mill develop-ment at St Saviour's Dock in

Mill Street, SEI, a flat cost £350,000 in 1988, £120,000 in 1992, and £200,000 now. Prices in 1988 were silly. Developers were building schemes, pricing their flats, and then almost immediately going bust," Richard Cotton of Cluttons says. The area probably saw the greatest price

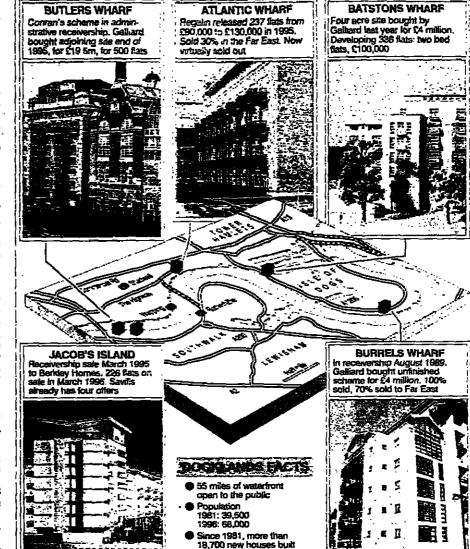
inflation in the late 1980s property boom than any other. At the depths of the recession in 1992, there were 3,500 unsold new homes in the area. By the summer of 1994, there were fewer than 100. Agents are now complaining of lack of

supply.
"In Wapping, Limehouse, Shad Thames and Canary Wharf, there is not enough stock," Russell Taylor of Savills says. "Buyers are attracted by the ten-minute commute to work and the area's improved infrastructure." The Jubilee Line Tube extension will open in March, 1998.

Other Dockland enthusiasts cite history. Nick and Lesley Lipczynski moved into Lantern House, a new develop-ment in Wapping, last autumn. "We love living so close to London's centre. We are bewitched by the Thames and the sense of being next door to the Tower of London. community." Mrs Lipczynski

Successes include the sale of Old Sun Wharf by Galliard Homes in Narrow Street, Limehouse. Thirty-six flats were reserved at the weekend launch last October, and 18 flats have exchanged. At the Keyside development of 141 flats in the Limehouse Basin. by developers St George, 51 flats were sold at the November launch and a further 50 per cent reserved off-plan. Developers started 1,000 homes last year, double the figure for 1994. A further 1,500 homes await planning permission this year.

owever, develop ments in less fashionable parts of Docklands are still languishing. The boundary of acceptability has shifted east down the Thames, taking in St Katharine's Dock, Wapping and Shad Thames and has finally reached the Isle of Dogs, dominated by the Canary Wharf tower. Estate agents have dropped its old



HOW THE DEVELOPMENTS HAVE FARED

nickname "Dogs" and now refer to "life on the island". New developments are concentrated on the Isle of Dogs and Surrey Docks, but there are relatively few high-quality flats on prime sites near the

Developers are building more expensive properties to cater for demand. Galliard bought Jubilee Wharf in 1994. prime riverside site in Wapping, and plans to build £250,000 flats. Sam Chapman, from Savills Docklands office. says: "Developers are tending to build two-bedroom flats

instead of studios these days." Mr Cotton of Cluttons notes that the quality of finish by developers has improved. They are now providing sensible rather than over-luxurious fixtures and fittings which buyers will no longer pay for.

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Along with City professionals, new residents tend to be slightly older, aged between 30 and 40, and work in the area. Families are rare, discouraged by the lack of schools. The closer to the City and the river, the smarter the area.

The more people who work there, the greater the demand

for corporate rental property. Knight Frank, which barely touched rentals five years ago now splits its business 50-50. There is now only one building in the nine-building Canary Wharf complex still to let. BZW is moving its entire City operation - about 3,500 people - to Canary Wharf this summer.

"There is a huge undersup-ply of good quality flats to let." Mr Chapman says. Typical rents range from £175 to £225 a week for a one-bedroom flat and £250 to £350 for a twobedroom flat.

Counting the cost of empty properties

his is the first national action week to draw attention to Britain's 800,000 empty homes.

Most empty property is privately owned, often pending sale. But there has been an increase in the number of homes kept empty by government departments. The worst offender is the Ministry of Defence, which has 13,000 empty properties, almost one in five of its stock. Earl Howe, the Defence Minister, has admitted that the MoD's record is "lamentable".

All narries agree on the need to act, when 127,000 families were acknowledged as homeless last year by councils. In the Government's housing White Paper, it promises to try to reduce the number of empty private homes to fewer than 450,000

Property professionals and council officers are increasingly taking up the challenge. The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Incorporat-ed Society of Valuers and Auctioneers jointly last year reported that the average property costs \$5,600 a year in maintenance, council tax and lost potential rent — to

keep empty:

One answer could be improvements to letting laws. Up to 800,000 assured shorthold tenancies have been created since the 1988 Housing Act. However, such tenancies provide insufficent assurances to owners that they will be able to evict unsuitable tenants quickly and pursue them for rent.

Lenders could make it easier for owners who want to let their only asset. In 1993, the Council of Morigage Lenders advised building societies on how to turn empty mortgaged properties into homes, but more needs to be done.

Bob Lawrence of the Empty Homes Agency, a charity, says: Repossessed homes stand empty for an average of six months. Lenders may see the sense of letting these homes instead."

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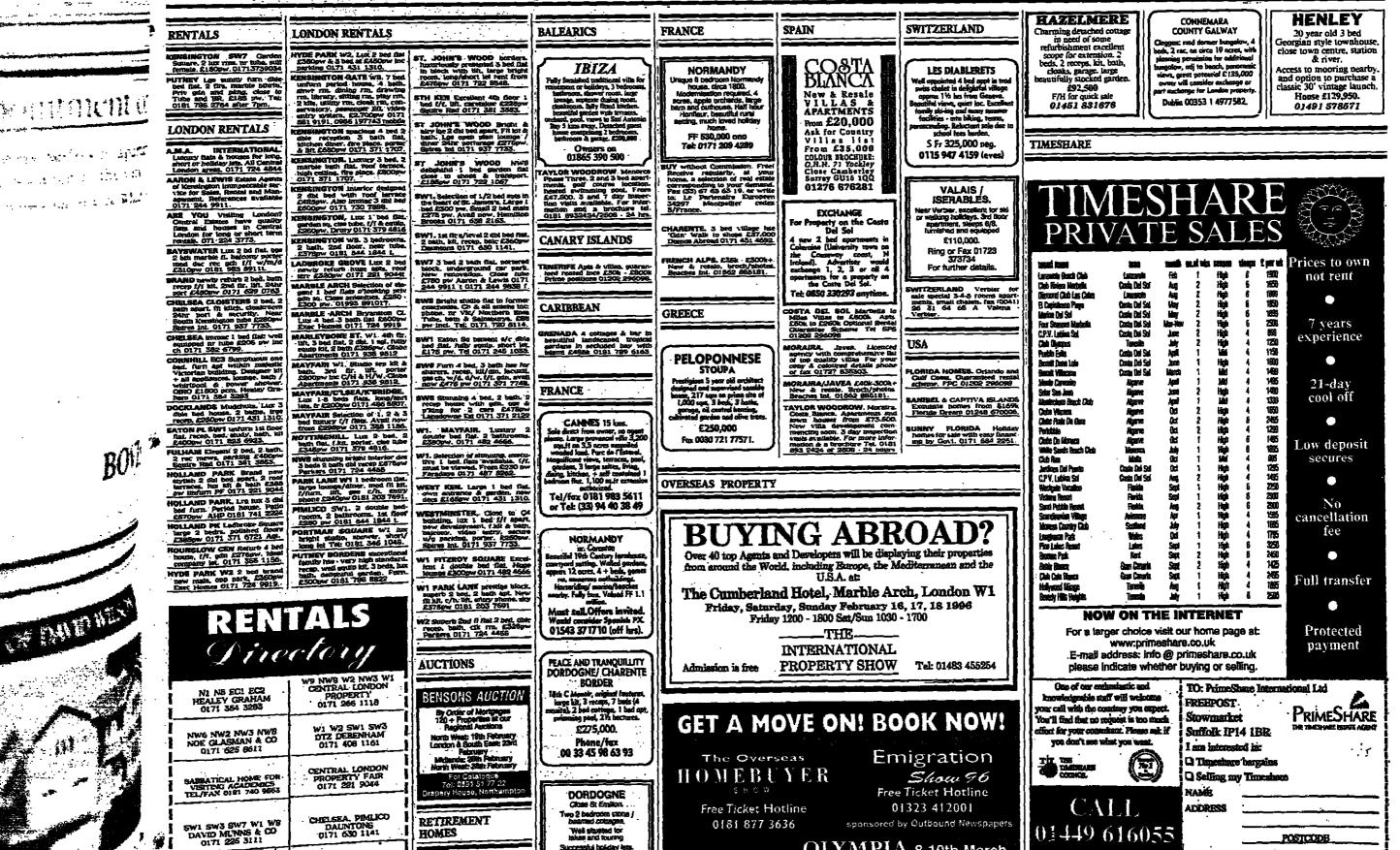
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34 WEDDINGS

Achieving a happy wedding day requires meticulous planning. Sarah Harding has advice on the most important decision: the dress

هكذا من الدعل



Aurora by Jasper Conran, available from Liberty

Dressed to say I do

he proposal has been accepted, the ring is on the finger, and the announcement in the newspaper. For a moment life is a bed of roses. Then the full weight of the nuptial preparations dawns: where to find the photographers, videographers, typographers, car, dress and tent hire, the balloons, Bentleys and bridesmaids. And what about the dress, the big frock for the big moment? When it was my turn last year, I opted to wear my mother's dress, a 1962 "Camelot" design that was all the rage 30 years ago. It saved fuss and fittings, but it didn't stop me from taking a peek at what every good bride is now

Across the Channel at the French couturiers, the finale wedding dress shown a fortnight ago at the spring-summer '96 collection of Christian Lacroix comes, in his office's words, in "white, white, white" whirls of A-line duchesse satin. Christian Dior's is tightfitting: Yves Saint Laurent's a colourful muslin affair in white, green and gold.

Back home, however. Jasper Conran, who created the streamlined silk georgette and organza dress with ruched bodice for Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones's marriage to

ANDREW BRADLEY JAZZ TEL/FAX: 0181-539 0018.

Daniel Chatto, is finding that girls are avoiding frou-frou like yesterday's lover and bucking the couturier trend by favouring off-

This is sup-

ported by Caro-

line Castigliano,

director of Casti-

gliano (average

cost of a dress

£1,200-£1.500) --

which sells Con-

Jenny

Trend setter: Lady

Packham and David Fielding — and consultant to Liberty's bridal department (average cost of a dress £450-£2.500). "Like Sarah Armstrong-Jones, girls want a very sleek, very chic, very simple style in ivory, a colour which suits the English skin tone," says Ms Castigliano. "Gone are the roses, bows and sequins associated with the dress that the Princess of

Wales wore." Cathy O'Neill, marketing and PR manager of Pronuptia (average spend on dress £300-£500), agrees: "Brides-to-be certainly come in asking to try on the sophisticated, straight lines. But once the dress is on, many change their minds. This is partly because it may

figure; partly ringue-style Aline suits their long-held notion of floating down the aisle." This is particularly true. it turns out, if they come in with their mothers, who tend to have shared the

same romantic

dreams about

their daughters.

Sarah Chatto So if girls will be girls when it. comes to sticking to fairy-tales. do they still wear long, floaty veils? "Less so," says Ms O'Neill. "Brides are older and want less fuss. Also, with the increase in civil settings, such as hotels, veils are becoming redundant."

It is a sentiment shared by bride Lucy Dillon, who made a bare-headed descent towards the altar last June: "I did not wear a veil because I don't like the materials that they are made out of. It worried me, too, that I would not be able to see where I was going - a bit like when your goggles steam up when you're swimming . . .

However, such groping about in the murky waters of

less frenzied from tomorrow until February 11, when Olympia. London, hosts the first National Wedding Show. Here all matters relating to the big day - including information about caterers, toastmasdisco hire, shoes, housewares. be shared among 150 stands.

A 50ft replica church will provide the backdrop for a catwalk launching outfits for brides, bridegrooms and mothers of the bride, as well as going away outfits, swimwear and lingerie. Designers include Berkertex, Elizabeth Emanuel and Hollywood Dreams.

Employees of Brides and Setting Up Home magazine will be on hand to provide tips from cost-cutting to etiquette, and Wedding and Home magazine is giving hair and makeup demonstrations.

Prospective grooms can re-lax in the "men's creche" watching sport on television and drinking beer, or take note of waistcoats by designers such as Lee Lamont. Ticket cost £7 on the day: £5 in advance. To reserve a ticket, call 01733 890187 (quoting reference DX). Six people can enter for £20 if tickets are



Froth from Lacroix's spring-summer '96 collection

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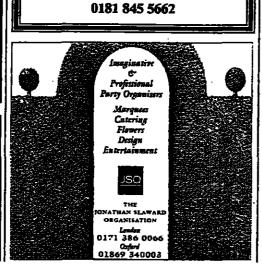
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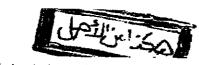
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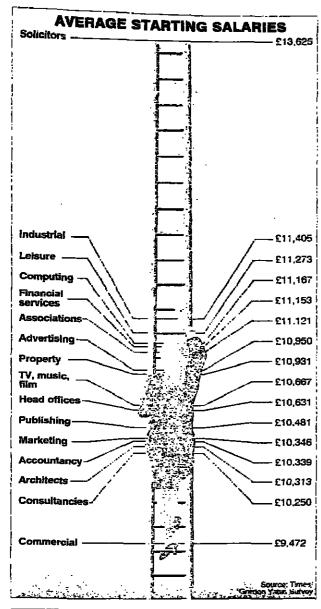
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Who earns what on the salary ladder?

very year, in associ-Times, the recruitment consultancy Gordon Yates conducts a survey into secretarial salaries and conditions.

The survey is eagerly awaited by employers who often make use of it when conducting pay reviews. "It is seen as a guideline rather than a definition of going rates." Richard Grace, the managing director of Gordon Yates, says, "Wefind that many companies like to know that they are somewhere between the average and the upper quartile."

Average salaries looked like

☐ College leaver with less than one year's experience -£10.310 in small companies (those with fewer than ten staff): £11,012 in large companies (more than 1,000 staff).

☐ Junior secretary with one year-plus experience — \$12.524 (small): £13,222 (large).

☐ Manager or team secretary — Elb.IIS (small): £19.33b Chairman, chief executive or senior partner level secre-tary \$20.538 (small): \$23.547

(large). Salaries are 1.3 per cent Beryl Dixon reports on a yearly guideline for pay and benefits

surprises. "Salaries are coming on apace," Mr Grace says.

"Not dramatically — the average increase was 4.1 per cent —

but it is interesting to see

after lower periods of recruit-

per cent respectively. Solicitors

predict an increase of 20 per

cent. Right at the other end of

the scale, television, music and

film companies and architects

higher than the average in the City while companies outside central London pay 7.3 per cent lower. However, averages do not show the total picture. There are considerable differences between the separate business categories. Of those included in the survey, head offices came first in the pay ranking order, followed by solicitors. In general, the more glamorous industries are towards the bottom of the pay league. If you want to earn a fortune avoid publishing, the television, music and film industries and some public sector organisations.

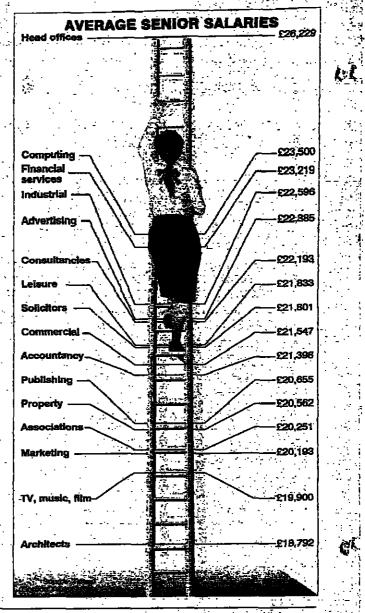
Benefits paid on top of salary – which also vary – can add to an annual salary. Overtime for instance, paid by one in five companies, adds 8.4 per cent to pay. The most common perks are still, as last year, season ticket loans, pension schemes and private health insurance. Life assurance, subsidised lunches and sports and social facilities come next.

The survey revealed few Few people choose an em-

ployer on financial grounds alone. Most choose a sector first then plump for job satisfaction within it. Good working conditions and personal preferences regarding variety and responsibility take priority. However, everyone knows what their financial commitments are and also has an idea of their own worth.

which sectors are catching up If you wanted to use the survey as a pay bargaining tool you might have limited ment. Consultancies, which are very responsive to the success - indications being progress of the economy, are that employers are still refucbouncing back. Small companies in the leisure, retail and tant to pay premium salaries marketing sectors - which unless obliged to do so - but it were slammed by recession is always worth a try, particuare making up numbers, too." larly if your job duties have changed so much that you think a salary review is called he survey did reveal for. And of course, if you are some trends. Employers were asked to considering changing jobs forecast growth in and consciously seeking work their payroll numbers. Conin a different sector — it makes sense to establish what the pay sultancies forecast a 32 per cent increase. Leisure and range is before deciding marketing were also high, whether you can afford to expecting to increase numbers of staff by 25 per cent and 26

You could also see where the jobs are opening up. Gordon. Yates has asked employers to forecast their navroll numbers increase for some time now. Monitoring over the past few years has shown these to be remarkably accurate.



A Well Kept Secret £15,000-£28,000 Packages

13,000 people work in Canary Wharf, there are 12 restaurants and pubs, 32 top name shops and several super health clubs. Canary Wharf is 2.5 miles or 12 minutes from Bank and will soon be serviced by the extended Jubilee line. Some of the best secretarial jobs in London are also in Canary Wharf. We currently have positions for first jobbers. team secretaries, sales assistants, and top PAs. Top salaries, exciting benefits. Call Belinda on 0171-390 7000.



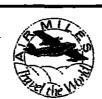
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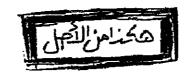
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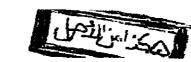
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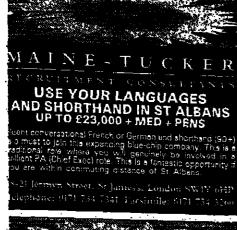
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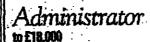
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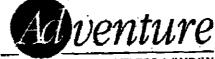
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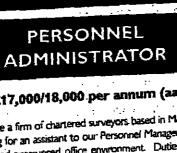


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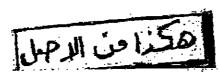
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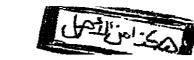
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Liverpool adds a musical, Ferry Cross the Mersey, to its new industry: marketing the past



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TOMORROW

A Little Princess, and all the other new films, reviewed by Geoff Brown

A splendid time is guaranteed for all?

As a new musical gets set to bring back Liverpool's glory days as the home of Merseybeat, Alan Jackson visits a city keen to cash in on its fab heritage

hat relatively new phe-nomenon, the heritage industry, encourages every corner of Britain to aspire to theme-park status. At times, the marketing style is so mannered and discreet it is almost painful witness Sissinghurst, where visitors scything their way through tasteful tea towels, pot pourri and superior jams may find themselves aching for the respite of souvenirs as unashamedly vulgar as a Vita Sackville-West fridge magnet or glove puppet. Elsewhere, the rela-

tionship between inspiration and selfexplonation is more 6 We're fools bizarre in Haworth, bodies weary from if we don't the climb up picturcapitalise on user-unfriendly cobbles may be revived by a Bronteour musical burger and chips. as well as the more past 9

traditional tea and It should come as no surprise, then, to those arriving Mersey sound, cannot be overstatin Liverpool as day-trippers — and ed where tourism is concerned."

92 per cent of the city's annual £73. says Mike Wilkinson, Liverpool's million tourist income comes from head of tourism, arts and theretage. million tourist income comes from head of tourism, arts and heritage that Lennon and McCarmeyesque. "When you ask foreign visitors category—that a big wide world of what they knew about the city Beatles-related opportunities before they came here, it boils down awaits them. Sitting at a window to football teams and pop groups. table in the Lucy in the Sky café. simpled in a mini-mall which rose .. in town for the from the rubble of the original Liverpool Institute for the Perform-Cavern Club. I scan a list of ing Arts, and the level of excitement neighbouring retail and leisure was phenomenal. It's my belief that attractions. Some are merely pun- we've previously undervalued inspired assaults on the passing pound, dollar or yen — Soley For Men (shoes) or Top Knots (hair-

most claim some connection with the Fab Four.

though not alas, tea towels, pot

pourri and upmarket jami tion of the Cavern it has subsequently here, and recreated, at the Albert Dock-The importance

of the group and, indeed, of the whole

and underutilised — the impact that the Beatles in particular had." Men (shoes) or top knots (nair-pieces, wigs and toupees) — but three years old, underlining Liver- Cross The Mersey — The Musical

Around the corner at the Cavern

Pub, the pun-hungry visitor can-order a Sgt Pepper Steak Sandwich or portions of either Give Peas a Chance or John Lemon Meringue Pie. Those with an appenie for proper mementos are to be found in the Beatles Shop, where a comprehensive range of memorabilia is on offer, ranging from rare records, photographs and posters to fridge magnets and glove puppets (al-

> Those purists horrified by the destrucbeen replicated in its original state, would choke on their Beatlesburger.

themed hotel and the creation of a "Last week Paul McCartney was

Wilkinsen's post is less than

Gerry Marsden, writer and singer of the hit, Ferry 'Cross the Mersey, and narrator of the eponymous musical about to open in Liverpool, takes a ferry across the Mersey pool's new commitment to marketing itself as a centre of tourism. Working in alliance with various other regional bodies in the public and private sectors, he has created a three-year strategy which in-cludes the promotion of the Cavern

Beatles trail, featuring actual discs sunk into the pavements, à la Hollywood Boulevard. lated tourism oped a lot already, but there's quite clearly scope for a great deal more," he says. "New Orleans has jazz. We

have the Beatles. It's definitely an important way forward." Meanwhile, in a shabby rehearsal studio, the cast members of Ferry

go through their paces for the impresario Bill Kenwright. The best two hours I've spent since Everton beat the pool 2-1 three months ago," he says of the show, which tells the story of "a headwarrer Initiative, within which band storming their way to the top local business interests are considering the opening of a Beatles boom. strong young Liverpudlian and his

week at the Liverpool Playhouse (of which Kenwright is executive producer), then sets off on a 14-venue regional and, possibly, pre-West End tour. "If you've got it, flaunt it," Kenwright says of the revenue potential of the Mersey pop legacy. Just as Stoke capitalises on its potteries, so we must capitalise on our musical past. If we don't, we're fools. It's a key to our ability to thrive again."

Downstairs, in Lennon's Bar, the revue's narrator-star Gerry Marsden admits to being humbled by the enduring success of a song that took him just ten minutes to compose more than 30 years ago. yet which has not only permeated the wider consciousness as an emblem of Liverpool's civic pride, but is also piped to passengers as today's ferry service docks at the Pierhead. "I don't think the city ever really appreciated quite how big it was internationally," he says.
"If it had, it would never have it had, it would never have

Now 53 and resident across the water in Wirral, Marsden claims that he and his Pacemakers never really appreciated the fact that they

BRECHT'S notions of kind-

ness and fellow feeling, inside

or outside Setzuan, are at best

peculiar, at worst nonsensical.

Shen Te, the so-called good woman, gives food and tobac-

co to beggars, trusts thieves, and allows herself to be ruined

but Brecht does not call her

this because he wants to make

dialectic between decent hu-

manity and ruthless capital-

ism. So Shen Te has to be

described as good, while her cousin. Shui Ta, brought in to

run the business productively.

do the disagreeable deeds she can't bring herself to do in her own name. When one cousin

is there the other is not To

adapt the words of the old

song, you can't have one with the other. Man cannot be good

and at the same time succeed

The pity is that an idea

which certainly contains more

than an element of truth is

in this heartless world.

is hated by all.

represented a footnote to musical history. "Until Brian Epstein came along to manage us and take everything forward, we thought only of playing for enjoyment and, hopefully, making a few quid along the way. Even when we had our first hit |How Do You Do It? in 1963], we still thought we had no more than a five-year career. More than 30 years on, the same songs are still earning me a living. Amazing!"

And still earning him respect. too. The tourists queueing to take allowed anything so lunatic to happen as the demolition of its ultimate attraction, the original Cavern Chih."

the daily Magical Mystery 1041 or Beatles sites may comprise young, camcorder-wielding Japanese, but Lennon's Bar regulars still recognition. nise a local hero when they see one.

A small group of twenty-something lads charting about football are galvanised by

Marsden's unexpected appearance. "Respect due, man," says one, entranced, before extracting the star's promise to hold still until a camera can be found. "Please, have this one on me," adds unemployed Jason, buying a drink for a man who found success before Jason was even born. And "make sure you put forward a positive image of Liverpool — not the usual rubbish that's written," cautions his pal Stephen, on discovering a journal ist is present.

You see, they've got a great spirit here, " says Marsden proudly If the marketing men could bonle and sell such a commodity, they probably would.

© Ferry 'Cross the Mersey — The Musical is at the Liverpool Playhouse (0151-709 8363) from Monday until March 9

THEATRE: Fugard's touching portrait of new South Africa and old South Africans ... bored by a bizarre double bill ... Brecht's style without substance

Witness for the plaintive

Somewhere in his diaries Athol Fugard remem-bers the moment in 1968 when it hit him that his life's work was "to wimess as truthfully as I can the nameless and desperate of this little corner of the world".

He went on to do just that, giving the world his observations of the human impact of pass laws, the destruction of shanty towns, poverty, dis-placement, police sleaze, immorality" acts, imprisonment and much, much else. In his unassuming, unpretentious way he helped to destroy apartheid — and with it, you might suppose, he ended his career as the great South African witness.

But the play he has written at the age of 63 proves that this is not the case. There are troubled people in the new South Africa, too, and fresh fears in need of a truthful recorder. Change, even positive change is frightening. That is the message of Valley Song and, since Fugard has not only directed it but plays two of its three characters, it is surely a pretty personal one, aimed partly at himself. 2. On the face of it. Valley

Song is an embarrassingly simple piece, couched in language that can venture perilously close to the banal. The main character, a 17-year-old Cape Coloured called Veronica, wants to leave the rural outback and hone her singing talent in Johannesburg. The plan is resisted by her grand-father, who lost his daughter and her mother to the hig city.

and her mother to the hig city.

And gently challenged by a

Character irritatingly called the Author, a white Fugardclone seeking escape from the whirl of the South African

Royal Court

the tale of the child-in-searchof a fortune, but, as it turns out, more subtle and resonant than it seems. The Author wants to want change, yet admits to a fierce nostalgia for the "unspoiled, innocent little world" that the valley once was Fatalistic old Buks, as the grandfather is called, clearly feels secure with rigidities of caste that vex his spirit yet strike him as God-given.

Both old men believe in roots and fear rootlessness.

Yet the play paradoxically suggests that roots trap and destroy as well as give nourishment and a sense of belonging, and that rootlessness offers the freedom to range and start again as well as the danger of loneliness and loss. Nor is this an abstract dilemma. It is a matter of burning concern to Esmeralda Bihl's appealing Veronica.
who angrily rejects both her
grandfather's suggestion that
she work as a skivyy for the Author and the Author's prophecy that she will end up collecting wood on some veld, barefoot and with a child on

her back. She is a confused, optimistic adolescent - and the spirit of Mandela's young South Africa. She prefers to dream, hope and run risks rather than do the economically sensible thing, which is clean all-white houses for a living, as her grandmother did before her.

Just to add to the complexity, her ambition seems to be less to sing well than to make the sort of spool-American noises she thinks will bring her fame and wealth. Like theatre in the same valley.

It is yet another variation on



An appealing double act: Athol Fugard as Buks and Esmeralda Bihl as Veronica

difficulties and disillusion

Does that sum up the play's conclusion? Probably not, given the many contradictions beneath its plain-looking surface. It has a ruminative, questioning feel, the more so because of Fugard's presence both as the sophisticated Author and, with a twist of the vowels and pull of the hat, the shrewd if illiterate Buks.

He is not a hugely gifted actor, but there is something. about his tiny, bony, earnest face that grabs the attention and leaves you in no doubt that matters of real moment are being aired. See it, see him. BENEDICT

THE Gate theatre's inaugural Biennale Festival kicks off so inauspiciously it is almost stunning. I certainly glazed over long before the blokes in the bear and moose suits started lurching about inside the toilet cubicles, supposedly having it away with two bored housewives. That was presumably the outre/absurd di-max of Services. Eliriede Jelinek's crude-ly ferminist play about suburban Austrians' sexual urges.

This season of brand new European

plays sounds promising pioneeringly working against British theatre's insularity. However, it opens with an experimental double bill which is, one hopes, the pits. Jelinek's housewives and their charvinist husbands, pulling in at a motorway cafe which is actually a sex joint for frustrated women, talk in a aboured style. The dialogue shunts between the obvious and the obscure. NIGHTINGALE

The bad and the ugly

Cat and Mouse (Sheep)/ Services Gate, W11

Lycra, fail to awaken our interest by delivering their lines extra loud. The production suggests parallels with Cosi fan tutte and Shakespeare's Merry Wives. But this brash modern effort is hardly on a par with its forebears.

Services is preceded by Cat and Mouse Annie Siddons's cast, in Day-Glo (Sheep), an anti-play and satire of post-

of Setzuan Orange Tree

The Good Woman

fleshed out with such thinly textured events, and placed in because she never bothers to a story that guilefully calls read the small print.
In fact, she is The Simple-Minded Woman of Setzuan, things the wrong names. But this is how Brecht felt he could best present the argument in order to awaken the spectator's capacity to act. out that he is establishing a More interesting than the

play's argument is the style of direction that Sam Walters employs to demonstrate it. developing his own Verfrem-dungseffekt from his author's famous "alienation effect". The engine of the plot is that they are the same person: Shen Te invents the cousin to

So that we shall not identify Shen Te with any one actress, all five play her in turn, handing over a shawl at the moment of switch, unless she is acting Shui Ta, in which case she passes a widebrimmed hat and cane. Some actresses play one or both better than the others. Teresa McElroy made an impossibly sweet-natured goodie but her stern, unbending Shui Ta was the best of the baddies.

The production is described

at first, this piece is directed with careful

crafting by Motton and Ramin Gray

(bizarre blackouts and one splendidly

ing the animals in brackets.

Thatcherite society by British playwright Gregory Motton, a misfit here who is admired abroad. Funny and intriguing

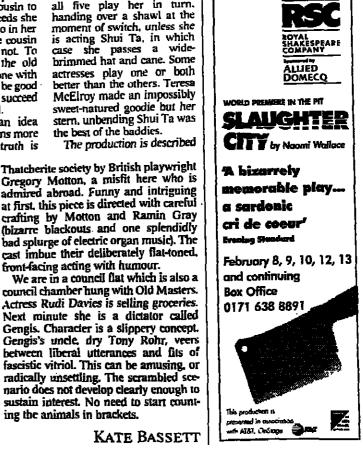
bad splurge of electric organ music). The cast imbue their deliberately flat-toned. front-facing acting with humour. We are in a council flat which is also a council chamber hung with Old Masters. **Box Office** Actress Rudi Davies is selling groceries. Next minute she is a dictator called Gengis. Character is a slippery concept. Gengis's uncle, dry Tony Rohr, veers between liberal utterances and fits of fascistic vitriol. This can be amusing, or radically unsettling. The scrambled sce-

KATE BASSETT

Idea whose time has gone as "promenade", but all this means is that the audience stands at the sides or sits on the floor. This is not greatly different from the ordinary arrangement, although more

uncomfortable. The company of nine creates neat thumbnail impressions of the water-seller, the wastrel, the barber, the baby and others, and there is humour in some of the lines, or in the playing of them. The play was stylistically innovative in its day, but that style has passed into theatrical language and leaves the simple content isolated and exposed.

JEREMY KINGSTON





Roger Norrington steers the London Philharmonic

through Berlioz

VENUE: Tonight at

the Festival Hall



Rambert hits the road with works by Christopher Bruce and others

VENUE: Theatre Royal.

Brighton, all week

plus the original jazz band version of Garshwin's Anapsody in Blue Bernstein

(0141-227 5511)

NOTTINGHAM: The eminent Romanian director Silviu Purcarete returns to the Playhouse to launch a world tour of The Tempest First seen here last September, Purcarete's

version is a mysteriously rejuriting specifically, with all the human characters accept Prospero in modern dress. A real treat, even it some of the class are not entirely understandable. Playhouse. Wellington Crous (015-941 9419). Tonight-Feb 15, 7,30pm.

Barblean Diagnillov Creator of the Salists Russes (0171-638 4141)
British Maxemum: Okyo and Kyoto partings (0171-638 1559) National Gallery: The NG in World War II (0171-747-2885). National Portrait Callery: Robard and Mana Cosway (0171-306 0055) Sergentine, Jane Stehnisk Vollettes (1171-723 0079)

(0171-306 (1055) . Serpentine. J Sterbak: Velletas (0171-723 9072)

(0171-887 6000) ... V & A: Jain Art Irom India; The Protography of Art and the South Kensington Museum: 1840-1880 (0171-938 8500)

Tate Bill Woodroy

LONDON GALLERIES

Tonight-Feb 17

THE

Blur, writes

Hilary Finch

challenging fusion of tonal, atonal and 12-tone writing,

acted as focus and inspiration

for new poems, new songs. Now the whole lot will be

performed at the Wigmore

Hall at the end of the project,

grittier, or much more musi-

cal, than North Westminster

Community School. Its 1,900

students are spread over three

grim concrete sites. Twice a

week, a group of 16 GCSE music students pass through a

hefty security door protecting

their precious keyboards,

Schools don't come much



YOUNG ARTS Anything the Second Viennese School can do, inner London schoolkids can

do better?

Listening to Alban, not Damon



OPERA

Stockhausen is back, with a few musical ideas about the future of world government

LONDON

CHAPTER TWO First riight of previews for Torn Contil and Sharon Gless in one of Neil Simon's New York cornecties. Contributes a recently windowed author living near Central Perf., mentably whirting towards Gless, recently divorced actross living in less salubnous draelmos Gleigud Snaresbury Avenua, W1 (0171-494 5065), Tonighi Feb 17, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm Opens Feb

NORRINGTON'S BERLIOZ Whether conducting the London Phitharmonic (thic case lonight) or his own period instrumentalists, the London Classical instrumentalasts, the London Classical Players, Roger Normigton can be refed upon to find a strikingly fresh approach to 19th-permitry music. Tonight he conducts a selection of Berind's music, including the Royal Hunt and Storm from The Troyars, the oversures Les Francs-Juges and Le cantaval romain, and that sumptious song-cycle Nutts dies An Murray is the solois! Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4042). Tonight, 7-30pm

THE CHANGING ROOM Opening mght for Devid Storey's takenating play about a nugby league team preparing for the weekly game James Macdonald strong Charlet in the season of Royal Charl Charlet. Court Classics Duite of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122) Torught, 7pm Then

COMIC CLITS Backstage at the COMIC CUTS Backstage at the Leeds Empire in 1951 times are changing as old-style Variety is remaced by new, young pop singers. Jack Shepherd's play catches the moment of change, detected by Jornathan Church Lyric Studio, King Street, Hammer smith, W6 (0181-741 (2311) Mon-Sal Born: mat Sat, 4,30pm

COMBRINICATING DOORS
Angela Thome reopens Ayddou a vengolul enemy waithe doors of a hotel that take her forward and back a Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888)

☐ THE FIELDS OF ANIBROSIA: (where everyone knows yal) Preposterous American musical about love and the electric chair. Also as unpleasant as you would expect Addwych, Stiend, WC2 (0171-416 6048) Mon-Sal, 7 45pm; mats Wed and

☐ FUNNY MONEY: Ray Cooney plays LI PURMY recreases may contact pro-the man who finds a bag of bank-notes in its latest lance. Rodiney Bewes is the sorely-tired tod-driver. Playhouse, Northumberland Avenus, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm mals Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm (§) AN IDEAL HUSBAND Trumphant return for Peter Half's production of Wilde's chama of political sleaze and

TODAY'S CHOICE

s the flavour tomorrow for the Royal Scottish National Orchostra. The only disappointment is the cancellation of A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Krie Anderson wish by New York's renowned Circle in the Square Theatre, apparently because of the weaths

Mon-Sat, 7 30pm, mats Thurs and Set, 3pm Until Mar 30 👸 **ELSEWHERE** BRIGHTON* Christopher Bruce gives another of his leading dencers a shot at the chareographer's "char" with tongan's premiser of Didy Veldman's Colsuctia (Velde of Celebration), for the Reinbert Dence Company Veldman's piece is parred with Bruce's own Swarsonn, and Mark Baldwin's cheeful

Swansong and Mark Baldwin's chee Banter Banter Start of a seven-meet Theatre Royal, New Poed, (01273-328 488) Toright-Sat, 7 30pm, mat Thurs, 2 30pm Ned week, Northempton, Demgale () (01604 24811)

GLASGOW The breezy American GLASGOW The breezy Amenoan conductor Andrew Litton supervises en equally breezy festival of American music and aris — I Litte to be in America — unrolving Scotland's two main orchestras, the Paragon Ensemble and Glasgow's Film Theams end Royal Concert Hall Gallenes, Litton conducts tonight's Scotlan Chamber Orchestra opener of Copland, lives and Barber,

Poliakoff's play about the strains of life in today's London Hampstand, Swiss Coltage Centre, THEATRE GUIDE

use full, returns only me sexts available eats at all prices

acandal. The star cast includes Martin Shew, Anna Carteret, Pervise Downe Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800), Mon-Set, 7 45pm; mats Wed and Set, 3pm (§) AN INSPECTOR CALLS' Stepher M AN INSPECTOR CALLS: Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-howing inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society Garriek, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) Mon-Fri, 7 45pm: Sat, 8 15pm. mats Wed, 2,30pm, Sat, 5pm THE LONG AND THE SHORT LI THE LOWIS AND THE SHORT AND THE TALL Mark Anden and Bert kwouls in revivel of Willis Half's celebrated jungle-war drams, or produced by Counterpoint Theatre Co, to follow their enjoyable The Streets of Dublin Alberry, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730), Mon-Sat, Sprin, mals Thurs, Sprin and Sat, Sprin. NW3 (0171-722 9301). Now prev Bpm: opens fornorrow, 7pm

☐ TWELFTH NIGHT: (an Judge's delighblu production returns for a bnef season, with Edward Petherbridge as Malvolin, Emily Joyce as Viola and Paul Grenwood as Faste Barblean, 54k Street, ECZ (0171-838 8891) Tonight, 7 15pm. □ WILD OATS Anton Lesser as Rover, the touring actor whose talk is a patchwork of the roles he hes played. Highly enpoyable revised of John O'Keefe's 1791 fance, with James

National (Lyttetton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 22523). Today, 2.15 and LONG RUNNERS

□ Buddy Strand (0171-930 8900) ...
□ Cata: New London (0171-494 5072) □ Deard Gulfly: Apollo (0171-494 5070) ... □ Don't Dress for Dinner Duchess (0171-494 5070) ... □ Greese Dominion (0171-416 8060) □ Miles Seigon Dury Lans (0171-494 5400) ... □ Offwert' Palzadum (0171-494 5020) ... Apolio Victoria (0171-828 8665)

The Wogsen in Black: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

piano and computer. Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre Al Hanson, head of music and jazz saxophonist, is ambitious for his charges. He has set up, single-handed and Screen/Green (0171-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys (5) (0171-792 3332) Warner (5) (0171-437 4343) unpaid, Saturday Music School, attended by 70 per cent of his Year Ten pupils. He runs a string ensemble, a percussion ensemble, an improvisation class, and much

schools.

on Friday.

Now he was trying out his

CHARM and humour have

been playing merrily on the surface of Stockhausen's

pieces for some years now, in

odd combination with the

grandeur that the scale of his

works - and of his claims for

them - would suggest we

ought to be hearing. Welt-Parlament, which had its first

performance last Saturday, is

true to form. The piece lasts

for 40 minutes, which is a long

time to be listening to unac-

companied voices, especially

when the consistent tone is one

The World Parliament

(which, the composer told us,

he expects to become a reality,

with communication not in

English but in music) is con-

of gentle hubbub.



Pupils at North Westminster Community School in London learn how to turn their poetry into songs — and get them played

latest masterclass: Howard Moody (pianist). Mark Withers (clarinet and animateur), poet Jo Shapcott - and Berg. Shapcott first. Berg's song Im Zimmer ("Indoors") was the focus. So what was indoors? Home? School? A place to retire to, inside your own head? And how was it? What did it sound like, smell like?

What did it say? "Indoors smells like burnt toast. Indoors tastes like a charcoal roast. Indoors says I'm in hell. I reply, oh well." That was Jerone Emanuel. For Laura Webb, "the sound of indoors is loud/But it smells suffocating. Indoors whispers stay. I reply: we'll see."

Poems were read out loud. accompanied by greater and lesser guffaws of embarrassment, heavy chewing of gum. A piano and a clarinet busked

their way around two distinctive sound palettes of notes: one a gentle and comforting whisper of white notes, the other a more menacing mix of all-blacks. Moody and Withers played Berg's own Indoors. Silence gripped the group. Rapping feet were stilled. It's the difference between painting a picture and taking a photo; isn't it?" HanFor their own picture, the students selected the set of notes they preferred. Then, having drawn a single line tracing the shape of their own declaimed words, the line was transferred into the black notes. Piano and clarinet transcribed the written line into sound. Mouths gaped at the magic of transformation.

The following week, the song had to be fixed. Shapcott had distilled into a single lyric a potent recipe of images from each student. Every individual poem would be printed in a programme book several would be read out loud. But only one composite work would be fine-tuned and performed. Editing began: more performance now, with real showmanship and not a little choreography. Shapes were found for words, notes for

shapes, the tone-row selected. "Sad, dark and lonely/Not very homely. Burnt toast, charcoal roast ...

Hanson was thrilled with the new insights and options offered to his fledgeling composers. "Nearly all their own private listening experiences are lyric-based, but so often it's all bound up with social function and self-identification," he said. This has shown them how song can be about self-expression too. And they vote with their feet — ? they've all turned up. I'm pleased, because they're

• Indoors will be performed at the Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, London WI (0171-935 2141) on Friday (5.45pm). It will be followed by Bergs-Seven Early Songs as part of the International S makers concert at 7.30pm

NEW RELEASES

◆ FATHER OF THE BRIDE PART II Prairied Or THE BIRDLE PART II
 (PG): Steve Martin laces the patier of bry
test. Bland comedy sequet, with Diane
Keaton and Kmberly Williams
 MGMss. Before Street (0171-935 9772)
 Chelwaa (0171-365 904) Odeons:
Kensington (01426 914866) Leleaster
 Sq. 101426 915633 Marble Arch (01426 91563) 914501) Seriss Cottage (01426 914 038) UCI Whiteleys () (0171-792 3332) KATIA ISMAILOVA (18) Sight but seductive Russien lale of thwaned passion, crime and punishment, with

Todorovski MGM PiccadRy (0171-437 3561) LES MISERABLES (12): Unweldy variation on Victor Hugo's novel from Claude Leliouch, with Jean-Paul Research

Beimando Barbican (5) (0171-638 8891) Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914695) **Warner** (5) (0171-437 4343) WITHNAIL & 1 (15) Revival of Bruce WITHMAIL &1 (15) Hewas of Bruce Robinson's quinty out cornedy, with Richard E. Grant and Paul McGann es-would be actors miserable in the Lake District McGMis: Fullnam Road (0171-370) 2630) Shaffesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) Ritzy (0171-737 2121)

CURRENT

◆ BASE (U). Glorious vivacious family tim about a sheep-herding pig, with a cast of talking animals Empire (0171-437 1234) MGMs; Futhern Road (0171-370 2636)

CINEMA GUIDE

SWEET PANIC. Saskie Reeves

plays a troubled mother stalling a child psychologist (Harnet Walter) in Stephen

films in London and (where kidicated with the symbol €) on release across the country

idero (§) (0171-434 0031) Plazi -437 1234) UCI Whiteleys (§) (0171-437 1234) ((0171-792 3332)

 DANGEROUS MINDS (15) Microse Preims orings rouge to an inner-cty school Predictable, rose-timed drams; director, John N. Smath. MGMs; Chelses (0171-35: 5096) Odeons; Kemsington (01428 914656) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) West End (01428-915 574) UCI Whiteleys (3) 4711-23-2329 (0171-792 3332)

◆ HEAT (15) LA detective Al Pacino tries no catch Robert De Niro's crooks ms: to Carch Hobert De Nort S crocks. Excellent epic cyme drama frym wnlei-drector, Michael Mann (1498 3323) MGMis: Fulfam Road (0171-370 2636) Trocadero (§) (0171-434 0031) Notting Hill Coronet (§) (0171-727 6705) Odeon Swina Cottage (01426 914098) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Beiter Street (0171-935 2772)

LEAVING LAS VEGAS (18)* Nicolas Cage dmis hrosell to death Striking, remate drama from director Mike Figgs, With Skabeth Shue Chapham Picture (0171-498 3323) MGMa: Fulham Road (0171-370 2536) Haymarket (0171-339 1527) Swiss Canter (1171-4334 1437 Serges/Bullet Centre (0171-439 4470) Screen/Bi Street (0171-435 2772) Warner (0171-437 4343)

MUTE WITNESS (18): Mute gal Moscow, created by Arthony Walles Claphan Picture House (0171-498 3323) Richmond (0181-332 0030) Warner (5) (0171-437 4343)

 SABRINA (PG): Businessman Hamson Ford talls for the chauffeur's daughter, Julia Ormond Updated Cinderella story just does not work.

 Sabrina Story Just does not work. ector, Sydney Pollack npire (5) (0171-437 1234) MiGMs: ker Street (0171-935 9772) Pulls Baker Street (0171-935 9772) Fulfman Road (0 (0171-370 2636) Trocadero (0 (0171-434 0031) UCI Whiteleys (0 (0171-792 3332) ◆ WAITING TO EXHALE (15) Crude

comedy-drama about black women's men problems. With Whitney Houston man process. with Writiney Houston and Angela Bassett. MGMm: Futhern Road (§) (0171-370 2536) Shaffasbury Avenue (0171-836 279) Trocadero (§) (0171-434 0031) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Swites Cottage (01426 91498) UCI Whiteleys (§) (0171-792 3332) Warner (§) (0171-437 4343)

Stockhausen rises and falls on a point of order

comes on to an empty stage, strides up to a high dais, and strikes a bell. Thirty-six singers then enter, chanting severally on the bell's note, middle D, as they take their places on platforms to either side of the president, who announces that the subject for debate is love. The voices continue to mingle and swirl, drowning particular features in close canons, thick textures and

Welt-Parlament

MUSIC THEATHE

Liederhalle, Stuttgart

amplification. The intention. Stockhausen says, is to focus attention on spirals of tone colour unfolding as the vowels change, but the bright babble makes it hard to listen to such

tration.

There is also the problem of the interventions, funny though these are. Every so

often parliamentarians come forward to deliver themselves of orotund banalities in song. "Love is forgiveness," offers a sweetly uncertain bass. Not always!" the president crisply replies, at which the nine tenors rise with a unanimous "Ach, so!"

Best is the end. After an exultant pulsed section remi-.-. niscent of Messiaen's Cinq rechants, the president concludes the session, and the parliamentarians leave the stage — all but one, the tubbiest of the basses, who dithers to right and left and finally remains alone. He manages to stutter out a remark: "Yes, and here would come the next scene."

Achim Jäckel was touching in this role: he and his colleagues in the choir of South German Radio, under their president-conductor Rupert Huber, were excellent all

PAUL GRIFFITHS --

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MUSIC 1 Mark Elder talks about Wagner, ENO, and where a top-class

opera conductor

goes next

6 Wagner?

A wall of

feeling that

hits you in

a wall of

sound 9



MUSIC 2 A new trombone concerto by Toru Takemitsu

first performance

receives its

in Scotland

THE



music 3

THE Nash Ensemble, in one of its most revelatory series,

has been observing our turnhas been observing our turn-ing century begin in Vicana; listening to the first rumblings of the First World War; strain-

ing an ear for echoes of an

even earlier Vienna. Saturday saw the culmination of four months of offerings in a

concert whose mainstream el-

ements contained as much

risk and surprise as did its

Mahler's orchestral songs have been heard, illuminat-

ingly, as chamber music in arrangements made by fellow

composers; and the grand

finale was Reinbert de Leeuw's arrangement of the Kindertotenlieder, with string

quartet, bass, woodwind,

horn, piano, harmonium -

and the voice of the young

German baritone Matthias

Görne. Görne's performance, feeding each word along ten-

derly and powerfully inflected

lines, would have been re-

stranger tribularies.

Mahler's songs are presented in unfamiliar guise in an enterprising Nash Ensemble series



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on the

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solo cello melting into the clarinet line as the voice rises

into the second; the piano's strange, echoing footfall in the

This arrangement, which lit

anew Mahler's settings of

Ruckert's painful poems, was

in the tradition of the cham-

ber-musical orchestral reduc-

tions played with enthusiasm

at the concerts of Schoenberg's

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lament for the death of Busoni's mother was given a haunting performance by Phi-

lippa Davies, flute, Michael Collins, clarinet, Ian Brown,

piano, Catherine Edwards. harmonium, Corin Long.

This, together with a robust

performance of Webern's ear-

ly Piano Quartet - all ten minutes of it - were the

rarities. But the central classic

work, Beethoven's Ghost Trio,

was every bit as remarkable in its way. The Nash has a

healthy way of trying out new blood, and on Saturday we

heard a new guest leader, Leo

Phillips, from the Chamber Orchestra of Europe. He and

cellist Christopher van Kam-

pern reacted to each other with

meticulous sensitivity and,

with Ian Brown's piano play-

ing contributing to the un-

forced ease of converse, even

in the momentum of the final

presto rondo, this was a

performance which will linger

HILARY FINCH

long in the memory.

bass, and string quarter.

MUSIC: Richard Morrison meets Mark Elder as the dynamic conductor returns to ENO. Plus, concert reviews

Still high on greasepaint

here are many superb opera conductors around. But it is hard to think of any who exude such a passion for the theatre - for all the graft, the theatre — for all the graft, the guile, the greasepaint — as Mark Elder. His credo is simple to declare, fiendishly difficult to follow: "The greatest challenge for the opera conductor," he says, "is to ctribe a halonge ketting these strike a balance between theat-

rical and musical gesture.

But that is the challenge which has spoured Elder to his triumphs. Whatever the critics said about the more hurid English National Opera pro-ductions of the late 1980s, they agreed on one point: Elders interpretations were electrifying. They surpassed most of what came from Covent Garden at that time, and little Ayatollah".

Garden as hap-pened at ENO since Elder's departure in 1993 parison.

Now Elder is back, temporar-ily. At the Coliseum on Saurday he conducts a new David Alden production of Tristan and Isoide Elder's experience of

conducting Wagner is extensive: Dutchman, Lohengrin, Rhinegold, Valkyrie ... and; as he rather bizarrely points out, "more performances of Meistersinger than any other living Englishman. But Tristan is new to him. It isn't like any of the others. It has such a burning passion, first of all expressed as larging and pain, then exploding into that incandescent second act."

Back in 1970, fresh out of Cambridge and on the Royal Opera staff, the 23-year old Elder — prodigiously musical son of a Crouch End densit had an amazing introduction to Wagner. In one season he assisted on the Ring, Meister-singer, Parsiful with Goodaliand Tristan with Solti. and performance of Flying Dutchnan. It was the kind of crash

course that money can't buy. "Yes," Elder agrees. "Crash and crush. I mean, I had a huge crush on Wagner. When time it's overwhelming: a wall of feeling hitting you in a wall of sound. It seems more powerful than anything you have ever heard. I'm not saying that it doesn't now. But when you work on these pieces for years you learn where to turn on the heat, where to pull back, how

to make the singers sound well. You realise that you don't have to be in awe of these operas. They are theatre pieces like any other, and you have to get your hands dirty to make them work."

Elder spent nearly two decades at ENO, first as a staff conductor, then for Hyears as music director. The success of the relationship he built with ENO's general director, Peter Jonas (now running the Mu-nich opera house), and the producer David Pountney, rather obscures the fact that when Elder first became music director — as a forceful and opinionated 32-year-old he had to fight terrible battles internally at the Coliseum. Particularly with the orches-tra, who dubbed him the

"That was to change the way some of them lelt about their jobs," Elder says. "You have to remember that in the 1970s it was possible for ENO orchestra members to pay other musicians to play for them. It sounds amaz-

ing now. I believed that the management had to control who was at any performance or rehearsal, not the players. It was quite a revolutionary thought for the orchestra to handle. I alsowanted the same players to be present for all rehearsals and performances of difficult op-eras, like Peter Grimes and Worseck Achieving that was the single most important way for the orchestra to develop." When Elder left, ENO ap-

pointed Sian Edwards - hop-

ing no doubt, that this gifted young conductor would turn out as the young Elder had done. The experiment failed: Edwards resigned last auturnit. "That shocked me," Elder says. "There are so few places in this country for a running an opera house. The music profession must train people to take on these roles. It's very tempting for a management just to hire guest conductors. But a real music you find this music for the first - director is someone who imparts an amusic, a style and an aspiration to a company

that is otherwise lacking." Elder says this, and he undoubtedly means it. Yet for the past two years, since leaving ENO and then the Rochester Philharmonic in America, he has been nothing



Mark Elder. "I would certainly consider it," he says, about the Covent Garden job

but a guest conductor no rehearsal whatsoever (you closes have to go at it with absolutely no hesitation ... and have luck on your side that well as at the Met, in Paris, in Geneva and Chicago. At 48 he is belatedly carving the reputation in high places that his talents deserve but his intense loyalty to ENO

delayed. However, nobody who knows Elder can believe that he will remain for long without a permanent operatic post. it's too much in his blood. And the job looming largest is at the Royal Opera. Bernard

Haitink has said that he will utilising his huge repertoire to - relinquish the music directorconduct operas in Munich on ship when Covent Garden for redevelopment. Would Elder, who conducts Arabella there next month, be interested? "I would certainly consider it," he says, with a glint in his eye.

That might seem odd. Elder is the quintessential Islington liberal; the man whom the BBC sacked from conducting the Last Night of the Proms during the Gulf War because he threatened to cut the patriotic somes. Covent Garden, on the other hand, is the very nest of Establishment privilege.

IT IS now ten years since

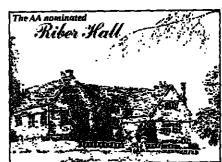
musical challenge would be irresistible: to conjure for the Royal Opera the same sort of ensemble spirit that he achieved at ENO, but with the added bonus of internationalclass singers. And doubtless, where Elder went, the old chums Jonas and Pountney could be persuaded to follow. The prospect of the celebrated ENO triumvirate of the 1980s being transposed -- lock, stock and super-ego — to the 21st-century Covent Garden would undoubtedly delight some and horrify others. It certainly wouldn't be boring.

● Tristan is at the Coliseum (0171-

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Gielgud Theatre in the West End of London, starring Tom Conti and Sharon Gless. Theatre Club members can buy best seats for £15 (normally £22) for the preview performances tonight, tomorrow and on Friday evening, as well as the matinees tomorrow and on Saturday. To book, telephone 0171-494 5065

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er variety of styles was expected of players in brass ensembles than in orchestras. A greater sensitivity to matters of balance and voicing too, he might have added. For this er, I Have Been Here Before. ensemble -- an expanded LSO brass section - included the very same players who now

Great Gate of Kiev.

direction built to a magnifi-

cently climactic opening of the

In an onstage interview,

Jones commented that a great-

LSO Brass Barbican

Philip Jones packed away his trumpet for the last time, causing the world-famous ensemble that bore his name to rechristen itself London Brass. routinely blast their ear-splitting way through any orches-tral tuttis put in front of them. Since then, Jones has been Principal of the Trinity Coll-Paradoxically, the exclusive company of brass players ege of Music, but his retirement offered the opportunity encourages them to listen to for a tribute from some of the many players who have reaeach other. Inner voices were also heard son to thank him.

Fitting tribute to

Jones the brass

to advantage in Christopher Before the founding of the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble Mowat's arrangement of in 1951, there was virtually no Bach's Brandenburg Concerto repertoire in the medium. No 3. This is another skilful Nowadays there is a plethora transcription that throws the of music from all periods to choose from, as Sunday's conthree instrumental groupings into relief, and the reduced cert by the LSO Brass ensemble managed some styldemonstrated. ishly tapered phrasing.

Whether Elgar Howarth's One of the masterworks of settings of early 17th-century English keyboard pieces the repertoire established in that time is Elgar Howarth's (Byrd, Farnaby and Bull) can arrangement of Mussorgsky's ever sound stylish on modern Pictures at an Exhibition. The breathtaking skills called for brass instruments is a moot point. For all the virtuosity by this showstopper may be found more widely today, but the handful of minor mishaps with which the passagework was delivered, these transcriptions seemed more convincing from these top players served as a reminder that it remains the more they were removed from their original context. an extremely demanding Something that has always piece. The scurrying semiquavers depicting the market at Limoges were dispatched fearlessly, and Eric Crees's

come a good deal easier to LSO players is the assimilation of jazz style, and the remainder of the programme was sheer delight: six movements from André Previn's Triolet for Brass, three from Jim Parker's superbly idiomatic A Londoner in New York. and Eric Crees's own arrangement of a suite from Bernstein's West Side Story.

This was masterly playing, and a worthy tribute to the man who made it all possible.

markable enough in itself. But how revealing the piano-dap-pled lights of the first song; the arrangement of Busoni's Berceuse élégiaque follows the Trombone voluntarily THE Scottish Chamber Or-SCO/Varga

chestra has been excelling uself recently - not so much in performing standards, that is, as in programming. Only a couple of weeks ago it gave a most attractively compiled Spanish concert with the guitarist Sharon Isbin, and a few days after that it was accom-panying Michael Collins in the first performance of Mikhail Pletnev's fearless arrangement for clarinet of Beethoven's Violin Concerto.

Since then the SCO has been involved with Christian Lindberg in the first European performances (in St Andrews, Ayr and Edinburgh) of Fantasma/Cantos II - which, unlikely concept though it might seem, is a trombone

concerto by Toru Takemitsu. The question was how the Japanese composer would integrate the assertive voice of the trombone with his characteristically fragile, minutely detailed, impressionistic orQueen's Hall, Edinburgh

chestral textures. The answer is that he doesn't. The orchestral part sounds like decadent Debussy, as though the characters of Jeux had retired from the tennis court to a dance hall. They

pursue their amorous manocuvres in the new setting, but mainly in the background now as some Tommy Dorsey of a trombonist takes the stage with a sentimental number. It is just the sort of thing which Lindberg, for whom the

work was written last year. would enjoy. It is not so dramatic that he wasn't tempted to compensate by running back on to the stage of the Queen's Hall to deliver some aggressive encore of whoops and eructations and growling

discords. On the other hand, Fantasma/Cantos II clearly appeals to the crooner in him. He probably also enjoyed playing the also trombone in three movements allegedly drawn from a larger work by Leopold Mozart: an entertaining piece so idiomatically written for the trombone of a hundred years later that it is

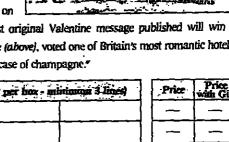
difficult to believe in it.

The concert began with Mendelssohn's Hebrides Overture and ended with the same composer's Scottish Symphony (No 3 in A minor). Though genially conducted in both cases by Gilbert Varga, neither performance offered the more necessary reassurance that the SCO has not declined in style, wind intonation and string ensemble while it has been ploughing through the more convention al programmes of the past few

GERALD LARNER

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Can a council ignore advice?

roperty professionals throughout Britain are keenly awaiting the outcome of a High Court challenge to Berkshire County Council's recently adopted struc-ture plan, which is due to be heard on April 2.

The case concerns official housing allocations for the M4 county, but Douglas Evans, the lawyer leading a House Builders Federation (HBF) challenge to the Liberal Democrat/Labour-controlled authority, sees the battle as being about more than new homes.

Though important, housing is in a sense a proxy issue." Mr Evans, a partner and head of planning at Theodore Goddard, says. "What is really at stake is the way in which a county council is using new powers to adopt its own structure plan and ignoring the recommendations of the independent panel which carried out the plan's examination in public [EiP]."

He sees this as a potential threat to a range of property interests throughout the county — in employment-related development as much as housing. But even without these wider implications, the 40,000 additional houses which Berkshire has eventually agreed should be built, mainly in Bracknell, Newbury and Woking-ham, are being criticised as insufficient to accommodate natural growth during the plan period to 2006, let alone the influx resulting from new commercial development

David Crawford reports on a case that will determine a county council's powers to adopt its own structure plan



The issue arose when Berkshire, which gained self-adoption powers under the 1991 Planning Act. originally proposed only 35,670 new dwellings in its structure plan on environmental grounds. The independent EiP panel, which reviewed the plan before the council adopted it last November, recommended 48.000 homes - 8.000 above the southeast regional guidance level. The panel advised that the origi-

nal figure, proposed to protect the county's "environmental capacity". was excessively biased towards such considerations. The total of 48,000 dwellings could be accommodated without overdevelopment.

Local property professionals who agree include Ian Tant, of the Barton Willmore Planning Partnership in Reading. He says: "Even 48,000 homes would not meet the workforce requirements of committed employment land. Berkshire is the most extreme case yet of divergence from panel recommendations." Chris Perry, resident partner at

Vail Williams's Reading office, fears that Berkshire could become

the poor relations among the southeastern counties. Potential relocators do their research, and housing shortages will deter them." Supporting them are figures which show that Berkshire has existing planning consents for 11.5 million sq ft of employment space enough for some 60,000 new jobs. Employment, too, has been rising countywide — from 334,800 to 342,100 jobs between 1991 and 1993 — despite regional policy attempts to divert growth to eastern

counties such as Kent and Essex. The only movement in the controversy so far arises from last year's intervention by John Gum-mer, Secretary of State for the Environment, who directed Berkshire to modify its figure to one "not less than" the 40,000 regional guidance level, leaving the final



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Evans: crucial issue

decision to the council. Berkshire's response was to comply with the direction and stick at 40,000.

"The crucial issue," Mr Evans says, "is that, with self-adoption, the EiP panel system is now the only independent procedure for scrutinising draft structure plans and ensuring that wider public interests are considered. If panel recommendations can be ignored without good reason, then everyone in property is vulnerable to decisions over which there is no longer any effective external control." The county council takes its

stand firmly on local issues, arguing that the 40,000 homes directed by the Environment Secretary are already more than the county can take without serious damage to its environment. "We have worked hard to balance the need for housing and employment with environmental considerations," says Keith Reed, county environ-mental officer, who is confident of victory in the High Court.

"But we didn't start our structure plan process with a clean sheet there were already substantial commitments to employment uses. If we give in completely to market pressures, we risk damaging an environment which is itself one of the main attractions for incoming employers.

"We are being used as a test case," Councillor John Albinson, chairman of Berkshire's environment committee, says. We will defend our right not to be pushed beyond what we have agreed to satisfy the Secretary of State." If the HBF wins, Mr Evans says

this will be a "warning to other local authorities — and Hampshire shows signs of following Berk-shire's example — not to take undue advantage of their power to adopt their own plans". If the HBF loses, both it and commercial developers faced with adverse planning policies will feel able to question the reliance to be placed on assurances which ministers gave on the preser-vation of the public interest when self-adoption was extended to structure plans in 1992.

for sale

THE former RAF Aiconbury, four miles northwest of Huntingdon, is to be put on the market in April by the Ministry of Defence, with the prospect of its conversion to an international distribution centre.

Bidwells of Cambridge, appointed to prepare a marketing campaign for the 1.100-acre site regards it as potentially the UK distribution industry's most significant site. Ian Hudson of Bidwells says: "The location of Alconbury and its air, road and potential rail links place it firmly in a European context.

For the first phase Huntingdonshire District Council planners prefer a 70:30 split between warehouse development and mixed development, including leisure and heritage uses. The former Second World War control tower and surrounding buildings have been preserved and could form the nucleus of a visitor centre.

☐ AN INNOVATIVE funding deal between Hanover United Property Trust and the Lend Lease Group has enabled a start to be made on the 112,000 sq ft Clockhouse Place office scheme at Bedfont Lakes, Heathrow, one of the largest speculative office schemes in the region since the early 1990s.

Hanover, which bought Bedfont Lakes from the Rutland Group in the first UK example of the Lend Lease Group's solutions to property financing Lend Lease has agreed to guarantee the project's construction loan, arranged with the Royal Bank of Scotland, in return for a guaranteed fee and

profit participation.

Healey & Baker and Strutt & Parker are seeking to let the building as a whole or in two blocks. No quoting rent has been announced, but forecasts suggest £27.50 a so ft for the area by mid-

SPACE at the recently developed building at 159 New Bond Street, London, is to be offered at £35 a so ft through Jones Lang Wootton on behalf of the landlord, the Swedish Life Fund Trygg Hansa. Three floors of about 7,300 sq ft each are available in an area of the market that is increasingly under-supplied.



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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7 1996

Millionaire plans to revive Richmond's fortunes



THE attraction that English rugby in the open era will-commue to have for players from the other home unions and further affeld - was emphasised yesterday when Richmond announced an investment worth nearly £3 million intended to restore the chib to the top flight.
Richmond. 135 years old.

were a founder member of the Rugby Football Union. They are top of the third division of the Courage Clubs Championplans: they seek first-division

and the inauguration of an academy for youth. The means to these ends have been given them by

Ashley Levett, a 35-year-old millionaire now living in Monaco. Though his involvement has to be formally sanctioned by the club's 1,300 members at a special general meeting next month, Levett will put £2.5 million into the club and will underwrite 2 share issue for a sum not far short of £500,000

. In return he will hold a ship, but have ambitions controlling interest of 80 per cent, with members holding

the remaining 20 per cent and contributing two directors to a five-man board which will run Richmond. Though no overt moves will be made to recruit new players until after the general meeting. Richmond have already made unofficial approaches to members of the England squad,

Richmond are the third club in London, following Saracens and Nigel Wray, and the Harlequins deal with NEC, to attract substantial financial support in rugby's new era. The capital has always been a Mecca for ambitious players and this will only increase in

ferocious battle for talent, though vesterday it seemed a partnership between the Welsh Rugby Union, Bridgend and Ogwr Borough Council had dissuaded Robert Howley, the Wales scrum half, from moving from Bridgend

However, Levett's involvement is also instructive because of his previous connection with lowly Winchester. He has effectively been the owner of the Hampshire league one club since 1993. and though International Rugby Football Board regulaowning more than one club. a structure has been put in place which may establish Winchester as, in effect, a feeder club to Richmond.

The success of Winchester has been nothing short of remarkable," Symon Elliott, a business colleague of Levent and Richmond's chief executive-designate, said. "This prompted Ashley's desire to become involved in the game at a higher level. We believe Richmond can be a driving force in British and European

Like Saracens, with their

Michael Lynagh, Richmond will hope for a "headlinegrabbing" signing as an indi-cation of intent. They seek to establish a core of quality players of international or

near-international status. Richmond are also in the unique position of sharing facilities with another leading club, London Scottish. They have been partners at the Athletic Ground for more than a century and Richmond officials said that whatever developments they put in place will be done after consultation with the Scots.

Scotland's clubs on the attack in battle for Europe

By Mark Souster

A DECISION to allow districts, rather than clubs, to represent Scotland in the European Cup next season might be beneficial in the short term but would ultimately weaken the structure of Scottish rugby, the senior clubs claimed yesterday as they revealed their proposals for the future of the game north of the border.

The clubs, who will present their case for inclusion in Europe at a special general meeting of the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) on Friday, dismissed the union's pro-district document as a paper which "does not address the requirements of the changing rugby world and the opportunitie which the new professional era present".

They argue that clubs are the traditional power-base of the game in Scotland and are best placed to retain and attract the top players in the domestic game, internationals who would otherwise be lost to England. Ambitious clubs would attract better coaches, produce better players and create a stronger and much wider base than the restrictions provided by a narrow base of three of four district teams".

Those districts would, according to the clubs, become 'super chubs" themselves, the antithesis of what the SRU intends. Players would be under contract, administrative costs would increase and the number of players exposed to a higher standard of rugby would be restricted. Chubs would be relegated to the status of nurseries and with no incentive, would soon lose ambition.

The Scottish selectors are today expected to name an unchanged side, for the third consecutive international, to play Wales in Cardiff in the five nations' championship on February 17.

Kenny Logan, so far ig-nored by Scotland in the five nations, plays his first com-petitive game of the year for the Development XV that meets New South Wales in Galashiels on Sunday. He replaces Hugh Gilmour, of Heriot's, who is injured. ☐ The SRU yesterday went live on the Internet, the first step towards what it intends

encompassing merchandise sales and ticket booking.

sales and ticket booking.

scottist Development XV: G Fraser (London Scotlist). A Stanger (Hawch). I Wynn (Omell). A James (Masps). K Logan (String County). M McKenzie (String County). A Nicol (Balh, captain); R McKulty (Streat's-Melville FP). S Scott (Metrose). M Stewart (Blackhesth). M McKenzie (Ednburgh Academicals), K Stewart (Cardif), B Ward (Curne). G Mackay (String County). S Holmes (London Scotlist) Replacements: M McGrandies, (String County). D Bain (Metrose). J Hamilton (Leicesler). S Grimes (Wastonlane). G McBwhem (GHK). N Dickson (Boroughtrur). Referee: S Percy

Three new caps to face Ireland

France wheel out guillotine after Scotland defeat

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

HAVING had their hopes of a grand slam shattered by the Scots at Murrayfield last Saturday, the French selectorial guillotine fell with a vengeance yesterday. Four mem-bers of the XV beaten 19-14 by Scotland lose their places for the next round of the five nations' championship, against Ireland in Paris on February 17, and the positional merry-go-round is reminis-

The casualties include Olivier Merle, the lock who received a yellow card for stamping at Murrayfield, and Alain Penaud — two players of considerable experience. Philippe Carbonneau and Michel Perie, both capped for the first time this season at scrum half and loose-head prop respectively, are relegated to the replacements bench, and caps are awarded to three newcomers.

Fair

传统的 医上颌畸形

England A's front row may not be surprised to see Franck Tournaire, the Narbonne tight-head prop. elevated to the senior side. Tournaire, 23, was part of a hard-bitten trio in the A international last month and, to account the second him Christian Califano back for Agen

moves to loose head prop. Abdelatif Benazzi must count among the world's best to lock, where he replaces Merie. This leaves a vacancy for Richard Castel.

The 23-year-old student was not first choice in the Toulouse team which won the Heineken Cup last month, but his vigorous play won him a place among the replacements against England, and now he takes the final step. The third new cap goes to Olivier Campan and illustrates the problems France have in creating a successful midfield. They thought they had found one when Thomas Castaignede and Richard Dourthe linked in the annumn: now Dourthe remains suspended and Castaignède, whose dropped goal heat Eng-

land, moves to stand-off half. He changes places with Thierry Lacroix, who thought that he had found his correct position when chosen in the No 10 shirt against England Now, though, he reverts to the position where he has won most of his caps, alongside

Agen, of course, is Philippe Sella's chib, and it may be some small comfort to Engback-row forwards, but he land to know that like them, replace their great players. Sella's 13-year international career ended when he annomiced his retirement - his club future has yet to be resolved - in December and,

> spired against France Yet the number of changes they are prepared to make in midstream is remarkable. though French pundits do not

since then, eyents have con-

necessarily see it that way. The changes reflect the disappoint-ment felt by Jean-Claude Skrela, the coach, who said that he felt let down by the

display against Scotland.

If players want to be regarded as professionals, they must accept the responsibilities that involves," Skreia said. The problem with this team is that they seem to be unable to put together three or four good games in succes-sion. They must become more self-critical."

The final change restores Guy Accoceberry to scrum half and recreates an international partnership which appeared against Romania in the Latin Cup last October. That was a notable match for Castaignede since he scored 22 points; he now plays in the position he occupied in lumor football, though forced by the presence in the Toulouse side of Christophe Deyland to move to centre.

in the past four years, France have used 16 different combinations at half-back. which may help to account for their swoops and dips in form over that period Quite what the Irish carrespect from this latest selection remains to be seen but, after losing to Scotland themselves, they have enough problems of their own.
The Ireland selectors' visit

to Belfast last night to watch Ulster against New South Wales was made less relevant by the late withdrawal of three injured contenders, Jeremy Davidson, Dennis McBride and Jonathan Bell, though they would still have been interested to see Paddy Johns back at lock. The side to play France in Paris will be named



Accoceberry, right, returns as the France scrum half to play Ireland on February 17 in place of Carbonneau

Thomson rails against keeping up appearances

concluded in Perth on A Simday, one of the most interested observers at The Vines was a stocky man with stout brown shoes, a skew-whiff smile and crinkly black hair that rose and fell hack from his forebead in

Peter Thomson, five times the Open champion between 1954 and 1965, watched with pleasure as five of his fellow Australians finished in the top ten of the first joint event between the tours of Australia and Europe. But he was disconcerted that appearance money, which he has fought against for years, remains such an important issue in the

"I am pleased with golf these days, except for the ugliness of appearance money

s the Heineken Classic in these parts and in Europe." Thomson, 66, who was president of the Australian Profes sional Golfers' Association for three decades, said. "Sport is sport. It is not a business or entertainment. The moment entertainment overtakes sport you have wrestling. If you pay people to strut the stage that is disastrous.

"Australian golf has never been stronger but it is under the spell of Greg Norman. It is hard to mount a series of events without him. It would be good if he gave Australian golf more help - by not taking so much money out of the pot. This is a very expensive spousorship by Heineken and it may or may not be profitable. If Heineken could get the same exposure for half the price there would be no question as to its profitability.

John Hopkins hears one of golf's senior statesmen take Greg Norman to task

Who knows, Heineken may decide it is a poor investment. In my time there has been a procession of sponsors who do it for a year or two and then decide they can no longer afford it.

"Greg and I are not friends. I live in Australia, he in the United States. We are polite when we meet. As a player he is amazing, unique even. His swing is technically correct now. We thought it was perfect when he was 25. But he can make such hard work of some simple shots, it's almost as if he is ungifted. Almost any drive involves tortuous preparation. He can take such a long time to do

something that others do in the flick of an eyelid."

Thomson's trenchant views have appeared in the columns of the Melbourne Age newspaper for 40 years. He was the first professional to augment his prize-money with income from writing, and one of the first to leave golf and attempt to enter politics. Memories of his unsuccess-

ful attempt to get into the Victorian state legislature in 1982 have been revived because his son, Andrew, is a candidate in the general election in Australia on March 2. "He is a Liberal and standing expect him to win," Thomson



said. "I loved the manipulation of the media, which is what politics is all about. The media like to be tickled. I had a constituency of 44,000 and 1 knocked on 8,000 doors over

Greeks and four out of five of them voted Labour, We Liberals were demolished by a landslide. Had I got in I would still be there."

Instead, Thomson voyaged to the United States, made a small fortune on the seniors' tour and began the profitable golf course-building firm he now runs. Though his travelling keeps him away from his home in Melbourne for six months of the year, he has discovered the delights of being able to play golf without marking a card. "Pencil-less golf, I call it," Thomson said For the first time for 40 years I can play without returning a score. It's wonderful. I always say to people I am two Scotches short of perfect health and two rounds away from competitive pitch."

Wattana lets Hicks off hook

By PHIL YATES

ANDY HICKS, who produced a 67 clearance to defeat James Wattana 9-8 on the final black in the last 16 of the United Kingdom snooker champion-ship in November, benefited from two similar escapes to beat the Thai 6-4 in the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wernbley Conference Centre

Hicks, a sponsor's wild-card entry who compiled three century breaks during a 5-3 Win over David Roe in the previous round, won the third frame on a responed black. and led 3-1, but Wattana, who has stumbled through a lowkey season, won the next three

Yet, just when the match appeared to be slipping away. Hicks levelled at 4-4 with a well-constructed 45 break, and when Wattana, leading 45-9 in the ninth frame, missed a simple blue, Hicks cleared to pink with 56. That was 5-4 in favour of the

left-handed Devonian, who figured in the semi-finals of both the world and United Kingdom championships last year, and he secured a quarter-final match against John Parrott by fashioning a 47 clearance in the tenth frame after Wattana, usually such a reliable middle-pocket potter. had jawed a red when 52-27

Jimmy White uncharacteristically burnt the midnight oil before beating Dave Harold, of Stoke, 65 in the second round on Monday. White, who had led 5-2, passed a stern examination by playing a faultless deciding frame.

"For me to beat a good player under sudden-death conditions is a major feat at the moment. White, who must have feared the worst after losing 5-4 to Chris Small in the Regal Welsh Open last week from two up with three

to play, said.

The future of the Benson and Hedges Masters, the sport's richest invitation tournament, which began in 1975. has been secured until 2001. A five-year contract, worth {4 million, was signed yesterday. snooker's longest-established sponsor and the sport's governing body, the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association. A total prize fund of £500,000 will be available at the event next year with a record £135,000 going to the winner.

Ceron seeks London hat-trick

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

DIONICIO CERON will attempt an unprecedented hattrick of men's London Marathon titles on April 21. His participation was announced yesterday, as was that of Malgorzata Sobanska, the defending women's

champion. Ceron's earnings from the London event, already some \$500,000 (about £325,000). will be close to \$1 million if he can set a world-best time.

The mark which has stood for eight years, was set in Rotterdam by Belayneh Dinsamo, from Ethiopia, at 2hr Ofmin 50sec. Ceron, from Mexico, is the only athlete to have run sub-209 twice in London: 2:08.53 in 1994 and 2:08:30 in 1995. On neither occasion did he Blustery in 1994, the winds returned last year, albeit less severe on a warm day.

"If we can get something between the two, without the wind, he is clearly somebody who can run under 2:08," Dave Bedford, the director of the clite race, said. Bedford promises a field of

"higher international quality" than for any of the previous 15 London Marathons. Under a new sponsor. Flora, other overseas signings have been made, but Bedford is not naming names yet. The leading Britons, of those announced thus far, are Eamonn

Martin and Paul Evans. Ceron is the only man to win twice in London but he had to settle for the silver medal at the world athletics championhave the best of the weather. ships in Gothenburg last year,

where he was beaten by Martin Fiz, of Spain. "Winning London for a third time would make up for Gothenburg," Ceron said. Sobanska, from Poland,

was a surprise winner last year. "Nobody in Poland expected her to win," Piotr Mankowski, her coach, said. The federation, journalists, and even her family were all surprised.

"Her family were watching on Eurosport and they were all crying - mother, aunit, sister, father."

The handkerchiefs may be out again in Poznan this spring. So keen is Sobanska to repeat her London experience that she took the initiative and contacted Bedford to ask to come back. Usually, the race director has to go chasing.

THE TIMES

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Johansson prepares for world league

By ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

talk about what we all want; if

we need some changes in the

format of our three competi-tions, and if that is what the

majority want, then we will

have it. I never said that the

present Champions' League

format was the final solution."

length to Johansson, one ap-

preciates that a scenario far likelier than a European

Super League is developing.

Substantial television con-

cerns, at present outside those involved in Uefa business, are

shaping up for a world Super League that would heavily

involve the Europeans. This,

possibly even by the turn of the century, would be the

principal playing field for the likes of Milan, Manchester

One is, necessarily, putting

business before sport. Any

truthful person admits that

the essence of the old, knock-

out, egalitarian European Cup

was sold some time ago to the

avaricious demands of the

triangle that involves sport.

The Champions' League last

year brought in £102.7 million

alone, attracted a global tele-

vision audience which exceed-

ed three billion and paid the

leading clubs profits such as: Milan, £9.1 million; Ajax, £8.7

million; Paris Saint-Germain,

£8.4 million; Bayern Munich,

£6.5 million; and Barcelona,

E5.4 million. This came from

the sponsorship of seven lead-

ing companies, from television

in 43 European countries, almost all of it terrestrial, and

from television in 150 other

countries, the bulk of it satel-

Given that Milan, Juventus

and company can take £2

million on the gate per match. who is going to opt out of such

business? A world Super

League, should it come, might

well be organised under

Meanwhile, what of

Bosman? One senses that the

principal clubs, rather than

breakaway in mind, will bar-

ter for the freedom of being

allowed to play however many

European nationals they can

cians ignored their own rules

to make football a special case

five years ago, the political

Uefa, trying to do the best for everyone, has little choice

but to stop wasting time and

ate outside the spirit and the

Chief Executive

Cricket

Alan Smith, the current Chief Executive, retires from his post at the Test and County Cricket Board on 31st October 1996 and the Board now wishes to proceed with the

appointment of his successor. Ideally, the new Chief Executive should be available

following the appointment to work alongside Alan Smith for a while so as to be able

The position carries with it overall responsibility for the national and

international day to day operations of the Board and for ensuring that its

agreed policies are implemented by the well-qualified professional staff at Lord's.

The salary will be negotiable and commensurate with the responsibilities of

administering a major spectator sport and its associated business activities, and the

or playing capacity, preferably at first-class level, as a basis for having a thorough

Applicants should have had a direct association with cricket in an administrative

to take sole charge on 1st November 1996.

post will carry with it other agreed benefits.

not later than 8th March 1996.

understanding of the current management of the game.

Applications with full details of relevant experience

should be made in writing to D R W Silk, Chairman,

TCCB, Lord's Cricket Ground, London NWS 8QZ

operation of European law.

climate is now different.

lite or cable.

Uefa's auspice

similated players.

television and sponsorship.

United and Rangers.

Indeed, when one talks at

ONLY the ignorant and the English believe that Uefa is about to topple at a summit meeting of 33 leading European clubs in Geneva today. There is talk of an immediate Super League, a breakaway of the likes of AC Milan and Manchester United. There is talk of European football masters telling the European Commission to take the Bosman ruling and jump with

it into Lake Geneva.

Such silly talk. What is happening in Geneva today. tomorrow and Friday is a meeting of clubs representing the 12 leading football nations on the Continent, a talkingshop called by Lennart Johansson, the president of Uefa, to try to get some unity in preparing the sport for the immediate future.

Johansson knows this because he has met Silvio Berlusconi, the billionaire owner of Fininvest, a conglomerate of 150 companies, of which Milan is one. And Berlusconi, after their discussions, has assured Johansson that he is not the leader of a revolution, that the European Cup Champions' League is



Johansson: determined

Johansson agrees with that. He concedes that the Champions' League, already an elitist system that shuts out the champions of the majority of financial compromise. "It cannot be denied that 90 per cent of the total income comes from these major clubs, and that if they demand change, we have to listen," Johansson said. Yet last November, when Real Madrid threatened to call for a breakaway European Super League, Johansson at once warned them that they would run the risk of being out of

After Real Madrid, who are E75 million in debt, deposed their president, Ramon Mendoza. Johansson called the meeting for today. There is no likelihood that 33 clubs would all he involved in a Super League, so why would they vote for one?

Furthermore, when Uefa, the game's governing body in Europe, heard that Milan, Juventus, Barcelona and Aiax had plans to form a marketing carrel, and had even designed their logos. Johansson again showed his strength of personality. "If you start anything without our [Uefa's] accep-tance, you are out," he informed them. "Come to

Corporate golf set fair for another big hit

هكذا من الدجل



Glynn, of the Titleist long-driving team, demonstrates his technique on the electronic simulator. Photograph: Hugh Routledge.

BY MEL WEBB

THERE were no drum rolls or trumpet blasts, just an elegantly understated expres sion of intent. The Times MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge was launched into its fourth season yesterday with a clear message that left no room for misunderstanding: "Records are there to be

Last year, the Challenge attracted entries from 800 companies up and down the country in the only golf competition in the British Isles to be aimed specifically at the business community; more

than 50,000 amateur golfers took part. The goal this year is to take the Challenge to 1,000 entries at least, and the organisers are confident that the figure is easily attainable. The launch at St Andrew Golf Club, in the City of London, was told by David Chappell, sports editor of The Times, that the newspaper was as committed to the competition as it had been since its first day in 1993. "We will be putting all our re-sources, including a 24-page supplement which will be in the paper on Friday, behind a

drive towards and beyond the four-figure mark this year."



His words were echoed by John Mitchell, the event director and the man who conceived the competition and introduced it to The Times. "We have seen this event grow dramatically from its introduction, and we believe that it can only continue to

expand," he said. "A clear emonstration of its growth in popularity is that, already this year, we had received more than 100 entries even before today's launch. We have high hopes of achieving even greater things this

Mitchell's optimism is justified. The Challenge has struck a resonant chord with corporate Britain since its inception and its remarkably rapid growth has meant that, this year, the number of regional finals has had to be increased from ten to 12.

The launch was treated to a demonstration of power-hitAdams, the Titleist long-driving team, who have recently had their feat of driving the ball a remarkable 359 yards on the fly ratified by The Guinness Book of Records.

Glynn and Adams were present at the Challenge natnal final at the Hyatt La Manga Chib Resort last year, when adverse weather conditions prevented them from trying to extend the record. They added their unique talents to an event that is, itself, the biggest of hits.

Details of the Corporate Golf Challenge can be obtained from 77-78. Bolsover Street, London WIP 7HH or

Unbeaten Britain strive to stay on top

THE Great Britain ice hockey team is aiming to end the first stage of its Olympic qualifying campaign on a high in Copenhagen today. The side, coached by Peter Woods, face Denmark in their last match this season, hoping to consolidate their leadership of group A in the race to qualify for Japan in 1998.

We're unbeaten so far and we aim to keep it that way," Woods said. "We've got three more games to come next season so it would be great to finish with a win in Denmark." Britain lead the group with six points from four games — three points more than Denmark and

England hit back

Cricket: England recovered from early setbacks to beat Zimbabwe by 25 runs in the first under 19 one day interna-tional in Bulawayo yesterday. England lost both openers for ducks, but fought back to 209 all out, with Noel Gie, of Nottinghamsyhire, leading the scoring with 36. The brothers David and Brian Murphy threatened to carry Zimbabwe to victory before Paul Hutchison, the Yorkshire fast bowler, rescued England

Mather deal near

Rughy league: The troubled move by Barrie-Jon Mather to Perth Western Reds is near to completion, in spite of the rejection by Wigan of a £50,000 offer for the England and Great Britain utility player (Christopher Irvine writes). Mather, 23, lost a High Court case to become a free agent. Jack Robinson, the Wigan chairman, said: "Hopefully a settlement can be reached in the next week or so."

☐ Greg Mackey. Warrington scrum half until Christmas, has been lured out of a short retirement to join Hudders-field, of the first division.

Inoue shifts

Motor racing Takachiho Inoue, the Japanese driver, will race for Minardi in the 1996 Formula One season, the Italian team announced yesterday. Inoue, who was with Footwork last season, will make his debut on February 14 at Estoril in Portugal, when Minardî unveil their new car.

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SHEE

Lumley through

Real tennis: Penny Lumiev. the women's world champion, and her partner, Tom Kneen, survived a struggle against Sara Metherell and Geoff Baker to reach the final of the British Land national mixed doubles championship at

Hampton Court, 6-2, 5-6, 6-4.

Nicholl in contention for Millwall post

By KEVIN McCarra AND RUSSELL KEMPSON

ONE of Scottish football's most romantic tales is heading for a bitter Raith Rovers to improbable glory, is to leave the club. Despite protracted negotiations he has decided not to renew a contract that expires in May.

hire. Manchester United, for The former Manchester United and example, will volubly push that case, having had their Rangers player will now be a candidate for the post at Millwall vacated by Mick McCarthy, who became managteam badly affected by the "three plus two" agreement er of Ireland on Monday. "If it's true that Millwall are interested in me, I'd three foreigners and two asbe interested in talking to them." Nicholl said yesterday. "Raith might This palpably breaches the Treaty of Rome. The law says be reluctant to let me go at the moment, that any worker from a memas we're not far off the relegation zone. but I've already told the board that I ber country can be employed want away before the end of May." anywhere in the European Union. While European politi-

Since joining Raith in 1990, Nicholl has twice led the club into the Bell's Scottish League premier division, where it had never featured before, and won the Scottish Coca-Cola Cup last season by defeating Celtic in the final. Having qualified for the Uefa Cup. Raith also distinguished themselves before losing to Bayern Munich.

Nonetheless, the progress has not necessarily been a result of harmonious relationships between the manager and his board. In the summer of 1994. Kilmarnock were eager to appoint Nicholl as their manager, but the directors refused him permission to speak to the Ayrshire club. Nicholi has now ensured that he will be free in the future to listen to offers.

A spokesman for Millwall said:

"Applications have not been invited but it is fair to say that a number of hats have been thrown into the ring. Peter Mead, our chairman, will be talking to people over the next few days. An announcement could be made sooner rather than later." Middlesbrough hope to sign Claudio

Branco, the Brazil international defender, today. Branco, 31, trained with the Middlesbrough players yesterday before having talks about a contract with Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager. "Branco is a free agent after buying

out his own contract so there is no problem over a fee." Robson said. Branco is keen to join us. We have made inquiries over a work permit and the prospects seem favourable."

Birmingham City, the Endsleigh Insurance League first division club, have called for their Coca-Cola Cup semi-final, second-leg tie with Leeds

to be switched to the following mid-Yorkshire police for the scheduled 4pm Sunday kick-off to be brought forward to 11.30am for reasons of "public

Such a move would force ITV to abandon plans to televise the match live because of its commitments to

religious programming.

"The only reason for playing the game on the Sunday in the first place was so that it could be televised live," Karren Brady, the Birmingham managing director, said. "If that's not going to happen - in which case we will lose £100,000 — we would rather keep our scheduled league fixture against West Bromwich Albim that weekend and put the cup-tie with Leeds back to its

original date."

FOR THE RECORD. Group A: Abstryrion v Pontypool. Group B: Narbarth v Dunvant, Tenby United v Llandovery. Group C. Castrhilly v South Wales. Police: Llanharan v Caroliff Inst. Group D: Bonymaen v Tondu; Ystradgyntals v Maestag. Club match: Tredegar v Narwindge.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: Fourth round: Postponed: Writtehaven v Halfer; Workington v Widnes:

SNOOKER .

WEMBLEY CONFERENCE CENTRE-Benson and Hedges Westers: Second round: D Morgan (Wales) bt? Etion (Eng) 8-5; A Hides (Eng) bt J Watterle (Trai) 6-4.

SQUASH

NATIONAL MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP: North Regional semi-final: Durham 0, Ainwick 5

RACKETS

and the second of the second second to the second of the s

energy on fighting the law. There is, after all, something illogical in handing out the PUPHOLDING, Germany, World champonships: Men: 10km team event: 1 Beforussa 26ran 05.6sec (0 Inne penal-ses), 2 Russa 26.73 (21, 3 taly 24.49 8 (3) 4 Norway 27.17 3 (4): 5 Austra 27.23 5 (4), 8, Germany 27.28 (4), 7, Czech Republic 27.33,212; 8, Finland 27.33,613, 9, Polend 27.49 9 (4): 10, Finland 28.07 1 (4). Women: 7.5km team event: 1, Germany 23.23 6 (2 laps), 2 Uvaine profits from a game that is increasingly wealthy and, at the same time, claiming that its business, its sport, has special needs ar 1 must oper-

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Portland 90 Toronto 87, Miami 103 Sacramento 92, New York 97 Destrot 91; Minnesota 104 Datas 92; Utari 92 Venotovira 83, Golden Stale 128 Los Angeles Cuppers 124 BIATHLON

BASKETBALL

24/22 7 (3): 3, France 24/25 9 (3), 4, 8etonuscula 25/27 8 (3): 5, United States 25/32 0 (3): 6, Sichalica 25/54 2 (3): 7, Cero-Republic 26/07 0 (3): 8, Friland 26/09 4 (3): 9, Sweden 27/05/8 (5), 10, Busca 27/05/9

AUBAGNE, France: Grand Priz D'Ousenine: Leading placings: 1. F Fortianals (f) MS-Technology 3tr 27mm Bed 2, J. Svorda (52 Heo) Ceramica. 3tises behind 3. A Chris Russ. Loto 4 F Beldano (f) MS-Technology 5. M Barbai (f) MS-Technology, 6. F Gueston Fri Polis 7, B Boscartin (f) Feshna, 2. F Smort (Fri GAN 9. S de Jorgh (Mo) TWA 10. S Knaven (f) 69) TWA, same time as Svorda. BOXING

BEXLEY/EATH: V/BO cruserweight in-ter-continental championship: Chirp Choh (Croydom) bit Darren Westower Floridings and mic Cruserweight (Brids) Jacobons and mc Chaisemeight (Grafs) Jecking Jacobs (Nigera) dres enti Tim Redmand (Wates).

FOOTBALL The following matches, due to be played yesterday, were postponed.

yesferday, were postported.

FA Cup, Fourth round: Better v Leeds to be played Feb 13, 7 45i. Insective Walsall to be played Feb 13, 7 45i. Insective Walsall to be played Feb 13, 7 45i. Endeleigh frasoritore League: Second devision: Blasteoot v Barriey, Berney Briss Povers v Chester Gartie, Van, Wagnabe / Rotherum Third devision: Chester v Northernorn, Darforder v Hearth Rochdalo v Preston Worth Feb. Santhorne v Bury Vaughtall Conference: Drace Vatronians. Bernstylve v Februar Section Cup, third round: Section Cup, third round: Section Cup, third round: Section 12 7 30. Durdee Walsal Section 12 7 30.

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Greenock Morton v Montrose (Feb 12, 730) Bell's Stotilish Laague: Fist division: Oydeharik v Dumbarton (Feb 17, 730) Second division: Oyde v Queen of South League of Wales Cup: Quanterfinal, first leg: Barry Town v Cerman's Quay. Spelding Challenge Cup: Cassaws v Ebbw Vale; First Town v Cerman's Quay. Spelding Challenge Cup: Cassaws v Ebbw Vale; First Town v Cerman's Quay. Spelding Challenge Cup: Chartes-finals, Katterny Stough Beazer Homes Lesguer. Fremen division: Afterstone v VS Rugby, Gravesend and Northiele v Merthy: Langue of Wales: Liansantifrad v Holywell Portins League: First division: Bohon v Shell United: First division: Bohon v Shell United: First division: Charton v Wimbledon: Portsmouth v Bratol Rovers, Walford v Southampton, Queens Park Rangers v Arsana's Second division: Carolif City v Newport AFC Under-18 international matter: England v Italy Late results from Mondary League: Trouthode I Suctoury! Leath PONTINS LEAGUE: Trouth 154 United: Trouthode I Suctoury! Leath PONTINS LEAGUE: Second division: Lanceair 7 Marchiel 1: Null O Middle: Drouth 3 SCHOOLS: FA Premier League Under-19

brouch 3 SCHOOLS: FA Premier League Under-19 Transhir: Maddlesex 1 Kerr 1 English

Fourth round

Fourth round replays

Bell's Scottish League

Undrie v Hamilton ...

Premier division

First division

Thad division

There round

Port Vale v Everton (7.45) " Woherhampton v Tottenham (7.45)

Cowdenbeath v Livingston

East Prio v Caley This

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Los League Al - Combined Services (al Worthing PC)

UNDER-21 REPRESENTATIVE CHALL-ENGE: FAI Scient Under-21 v Totlenham Under-21 (at Tolka Perk)

BEAZER HOMES LEACUE: Southern division: Forest Green's Newport IOW Dr Marter's Cup: Third round: Travelonge's

Albrom v East Starling

Tennents Scottish Cup

Curtermine v St Merren

Third round replay

RED STREPE CLIP Port-of-Spaint Cuyerra 173 and 152 (N de Groot 78; E Antoins 5-47). Trindad and Tobago 288 and 88-2 1/frinded and Tobago won by eight wiktels. Bridgelawn: Windward Islands 233 and 318. Berbados 339 and 213-8. Barbados won by four wickets. Montego Bay: Jamaca 44-7 declared Leward Islands 27 and 184 (Marton Gibbs 4-42). Jamaces won by an improse and 3 rurs. 227 and 184 (Marton Golos 4-42). Jernéios won by an invinge and 13 rurs. BULAWAYO: Under-19 one-day interne-tional match: England 209 "Imbabwe 184 (8 Murphy 67, P. Huschson 5-33, M. Hoggard 3-25). England won by 25 rurs.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Colorado Montreal 2: San Jose 6 Toronto 4 RUGBY UNION

loday, were postponed. HEINENEN LEAGUE: First division: Neath

QUEEN'S CLUB: Lacoste British Open champleoship: Second round: W Boone bt D Johnson 15-1, 15-3, 16-1; G Barker bt Y

TODAY'S FOOTURES TO SELECT A STATE OF THE SELECT ASSESSMENT OF THE SELE

ICIS LEAGUE: First division: Abingdon Trum v Tooting and Mitchern Third division: Harber v Clapton: Weakistone v Camberley FOOTBALL AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Brighton v Ipiswich (2.0); Bristol City v Luch, Charlière v Werpbeton (7.0); Crystal Palace v Oxford Utal (at Duwlich Hamilet, 7.0) Second division: Baffi v Pymoužn. Bournationaln v Torquey (2.0); League Gup: Barmingham v Swandoa (7.0) Chariton v Brentford (7 45) Coventry v Manchester Cry (7 45) Maddlesbrough v Wimbledon (7 45) Nothrigham Forest v Oxford Utd (7 45) Shrawsbury v Liverpool (8.0) Southampton v Crewe Swindon v Oldham (7.45) West Harn v Grimsby (8.0) PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First di-

PONTINS CENTRAL (EAGLE: First di-vision: Was Enotman' v Leeds (7 0). Postponed: Bizeldum v Deaty (or Presson FC): Didtam v Berninghern C - (et Stalytindge FC). Second division: Barneley v Pleston (7 0): Huddersheld v Bumley (7 0): Rothman v York (7 0). Postponed: Asfor: Wita v Bradford, Backgool v Cor-many. Michiglichough v Sunderland (at Harticoon FC). LEAGUE OF WALES: Briton Perry v Inter Cardill Postponed: Ton Pentre v Cwmbzer

LEAGUE OF WALES CUP: Quarter-Small first log: Carmarion v Conwy (7 46) COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Pro-mies division: Feltham y Westfald.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division, Twenton v Bactowell SPRINGHEATH PRINT CAPITAL LEAGUE: Samet v Sutran U. Colchester U.v. Carrondgo U (2.0): Crawler I v Northampor: Futran v Reading (2.0): Gälingm v Southend U (2.0), Wolungham Town v West Ham U (7.45) Wycombe v Welting (7.45). BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: President division: Briefley Hill T v Lye Town.

JEWSON LEAGUE CUP: Quarter line): Vicoconoge v Stormarkut

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First di-

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE round, second leg: London Colney of Aricsey Town.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS FULL FILM TROPHY Quarter-linat: South East Sussex v Hack ENGLISH SCHOOLS SNICKERS UNDER 19 TROPHY: John Hampdon GS, Bucks v King Affect's, Oxen (2:15); Palmars, Col-ega, Esser v (Lulon SPC, Back (ar Greye Afristic, 1:30); Scunditell College, Avon v Swindon College, Wills (at Keynstiam)

FUGBY UNION

Haineken Leagus First division Nartillery v Uanglit Bridgend v Newport Citals metabas. Cambridge Univ v Royal Newy (7.15) Oxford University v Army (3.0)...... Liandovery v Ammanford

RUGBY LEAGUE Silk Cut Challenge Cup Fourth sound Workington v Widnes

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budwelser League: Lei-cester v Shelfleid (B.O. SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Masters (Worthley) TENNIS: LTA women's sate

Cockroft 13-15, 15-8, 17-15, 18-6; N Smith bt A Ryens 15-0, 15-1, 15-0; J Mele bt H Angus 15-6, 15-3, 15-4; D Meley bt M Hayeard 15-11, 15-6, 15-12; N Smith bt A Lyons 6-0, 6-1, 8-0; J Prenn bt J Beaumont 15-1, 15-8, 15-8; O Makey bt J Eston 15-1, 15-2, 15-11.

REAL TENNIS

HAPBIN, China: Specializing: Women: 3000m short track relay: 1, China 4min 23.13sec (world record).

SUNDERLAND: LEVENS women's tournament First round: (GB unless stated) J Ward bit K Hand 6-0, 6-4; A Tecsor (Rom) bit K Routienne 6-7, 6-3; R Sandu (Rom) bit K Routienne 6-7, 6-3; R Sandu (Rom) bit K Routienne 6-7, 6-2; 6-6; S Smith bit N Reindtrantely (Madegascar) 6-0; 6-2 M Beachman (Pus) bit L Woodrolle 6-4, 6-2; J Pullin bit S Lydon 6-4, 6-1; S A Stidel (GB) bit D Haelt (Holl) 8-1, 3-6, 8-4; A Larlione (Rus) bit A Gallowiz (Rom) 6-1, 8-0; C Taylor (GB) bit E Bond (GB) 6-4, 6-2 WCL FSSIRIG, Gameiny, ATP Challenger fournament: First round: J Beles (GB) bit J Pugh (US) 8-4 6-3.



LONDON SENIOR CUP: Third round: Total than Omeda v Wingate and Finchiey HEREWARD SPORTS LEAGUE: Cup: Third round: 3: Neots y Stodold ENGLISH SCHOOLS UNDER 18 GOOD-YEAR TROPHY: Second round (200): Eurouth College, Dovon v Multield, Somer-sat, St. Francis, Xayler, Mersayaide v Burrage, Greeter Manchester Kick-off 7 D unless stated

The Die Clair of Charle Bellade 112 States Square, Levelus Riv Laife cost Mightale charge rain. Charles et all often Sough

Aintree management must act to maintain public appeal Grand National in danger of decline

JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

MYSTIQUE is a vital strand running through racing's rich fabric which extends from the secrets of the betting ring to the magic of the big race. The Hennessy and Mackeson Gold Cups, or the Ebor and Royal Hunt Cup, have their own special aura built upon an enticing pot-pourri of tradition and folklore which underpin the sport's appeal.

When the mystique begins to fray at the edges, the effect can be catastrophic as those who have inherited the task of running the Derby are discovering to their cost. Suddenly, a race which people not so long ago lauded as one of the sporting occasions of the year can be in danger of losing its identity and public support. Once the spell is broken it is difficult to weave another and headlines in sports pages become dominated by football rather than celebrated moments of the Turf.

In the eyes of many, the Grand National epitomises racing's mystique, thanks to derring do of horses like Red Rum, the bravery of people such as Bob Champion on Aldaniti, the bad hick of evon Loch, the Queen Mother and Dick Francis in 1956 or the good fortune of Foinavon, the 100-1 winner in 1967.

And yet there are dispiriting signs that the magic of the National may have peaked and could even be on the wane. Was the sudden and unexpected slump in BBC viewing figures last year -down to 11.9 million from an average of 16 million in previous years - just a one-off or the start of a trend?

If a crack is beginning to appear in the appeal of the world's most famous steeplechase", the reasons are not difficult to identify. Each year the mystique used to begin with the announcement of the weights allocated to the entries by the (then) Jockey Club handicapper. Until recently it was the one occasion in the season when Christopher Mordaunt was released from the manacles of official ratings and free to create a one-off handicap for the National which took into account the

mysterious Amtree factor.

His decisions, which often involved giving extra weight to horses who had run well. previously at Aintree, caused considerable debate and controversy - and all-important.



Deep Bramble, who has yet to race this season, is being prepared for the Grand National by West Country trainer Paul Nicholls

ante-post interest as punters became carried away by the

intrigue. However, the Aintree factor" no longer applies because of the modifications made to the toughest obstacles. The changes to the fences, which followed public concern about the welfare of horses, nibbled at the unique nature of the National and relegated it to just another staying chase for handicapping purposes.

Once Mordaunt had decid-

ed that Master Oats should carry top weight of 11st 10lb for this year's race on March 30. he was then reduced to the role of automaton as official ratings determined the weights to be carried by other horses. Indeed, his calculations were accurately predicted by the racing trade press yesterday before their official launch at the weights lunch in London.

To make matters worse, the weights lunch — an essential part of the National build-up and traditionally the catalyst for acres of press hype and publicity — has been altered at the behest of meddling marketing consultants.

Until last year, the weights were issued before the lunch

By RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

ment at Belgrade which is

currently in progress the Rus-sian grandmaster Evgeny

Bareev has won a fine game

against the Fide champion

Anatoly Karpov.

After an opening which went slightly in his favour Bareev proceeded to deprive Karpov of any vestige of counterplay. He gradually tightened his noose on the

queenside and transposed into

an endgame of queens and pawns which, in spite of an

extra white pawn, still seemed

The elegant coup de grâce,

though, came with White's

40th move, e4. Were Black to

play 40 ... Qxe4+ then 41 Qf3+ forces a trade of queens with a

winning king and pawn endgame for White.

Queen's Indian Defence

Bb7

d5

Nuc3

Nd7

Kim?

MG

Rd7

Ce5

White: Evgeny Bareev

Black: Anatoly Karpov

Belgrade, January 1996

3 N#3

4 a3

7 002

17 Oc2

18 Raci

Karpov outplayed In the international tourna-

Anatoly Karpov.

difficult to win.

Mester Cate: 10yrs, 1 Sylver Dergent Jodern Heahing Steel Dublin River Moneitur Le Cure

which provided ideal time for. trainers, jockeys and owners to offer their sober analysis, take much-publicised advantage of the juicy ante-post prices being offered by bookmakers' representatives and for racing journalists to obtain the necessary material

KEENE on CHESS

22 Ros 23 Roots

25_ Rc1

28 113°

.35 Qxa5

36 KH2

41 Qc5

. 95 R8d6

Rode

Nd7

Rxd7 Rxc7

Ob1+

Od5+

Diagram of final position

Last year, the weights were deliberately held back until the lunch was well under way. all in the name of "impact". The only impact was to endanger the very oxygen of publiciwhich launches the National dream each February, as infuriated members of

and Grand National this year, it will be crucial to look for horses being prepared espe-cially for Aintree. The only possible exception would be

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright

suggests the best value in the ante-post market

GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

Smith's Band

Young Hustler

Maxter Oats

Earth Summit

Monsteur Le Core

the ultra-tough Monsieur Le Cure, who won at both meetings two years ago. However, my three against the field at this early stage are Smith's Band, Life Of A Lord, and Deep Bramble, who is a best-priced 25-1 with Coral and well worth an ante-post

bled around for the comments

The warning signs are there for all to see, including Patrick

Martell from the race spon-sors, and Peter Greenall.

chairman of Aintree, if they

With only 16 days separating the Cheltenham Gold Cup

choose to acknowledge them.

of well-lunched guests.

Bleak outlook, page 48

3.45 Komrevey Dance 4.15 Born A Lady 4.45 PRIMULA BAIRN (nap)

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD.

DRAW: 7F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST EDING: STANDARD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING (SWITCHED FROM WOLVERHAMPTON)

2.15 Avon Handicap (3-Y-0: £3,485: 71) (7 tunners)

(2) 0341-4 HORESTLY 21 (CD,C) to Hospath 8 Street 9-7.
(3) 0341-4 HORESTLY 21 (CD,C) to Hospath 8 Street 9-7.
(4) 0301-9- ORIEL LAD 126 (E,D,C.S) (Rendall Water 8-Ca Lab) P France 9-7.
(5) 0303-93 MYTTORS MISTANC 7 (D,P) (6 Mytton) A Barley 9-7.
(6) 0303-93 MYTTORS MISTANC 7 (D,P) (6 Mytton) A Barley 9-7.
(7) 128306-5 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,P) (6 Hospath Lap) M Camerin 8-10.
(8) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,P) (6 Hospath Lap) M Camerin 8-10.
(9) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,P) (6 Hospath Lap) M Camerin 8-10.
(9) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,P) (1 Hospath 18 Mytton 8-3 (Bar)
(9) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Data) M Camerin 8-3 (Bar)
(9) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Data) M Camerin 8-3 (Bar)
(10) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Bar)
(11) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Bar)
(12) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Bar)
(13) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Bar)
(14) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Bar)
(15) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Bar)
(16) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Bar)
(17) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Bar)
(18) 0305-6 SOLETY 698L 18 (D,G) (Bar) BETTING, 5-2 Mydams Mastala, 3-1 Henestly, 9-2 Onel Led, 5-1 Dies-C. 6-1 Bailmett, 8-1 Nungara 10-1 Society Gal

1995: CRYSTAL LOOP 8-12 G Bardwell (5-2) A Bailey & ra

FORM FOCUS

HOMESTLY best Childramy Bung Al in 12-numer numery at Wolvenhaupton (7) pendamate seet with MYTTONS MISTANE (9th better 001 1941 3rd. O'RIEL LAID best effort best feet Stream 31 in 6-numer newsky at Duester (71 good to 201) MYTTONS MISTANE 91 and nech 3rd of 9 to Weethnam's Weigh at bendarap at Wolverhampson (6). Previously neck and 1%1 2rd of 9 to Biographyse in handcap of Robertampolar (7) with HOMESTLY short-head 4th. BALLIMICK head Emishelent head in 9-tonnes selling laministic head (11m) DIES-C 1%1 3rd of 11 to Mysics Tempo on seller at Workshampolar (6) Selection: MYTTORS MISTAKE

2.45 NENE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (£2,832: 1m 4f) (9 numners)

| 201 | (2) | (ALISRO 291) | J. Margani & Fierro 6-9-2 | M. Vrightam 202 | (6) 000,02-3 | RCX THE BISCURT 30 (6 Medistrools) R. Philips 5-9-2 | A. Clark 203 | (6) 000,02-3 | RCX THE BISCURT 30 (6 Medistrools) R. Philips 5-9-2 | A. Clark 203 | (6) 000,000 | AMRGEOTROUS 1-4 /N / Alice C. Medisul E. Alcan 4-8-13 | S. D. Williams 204 | (5) 000,000 | AMRGEOTROUS 1-4 /N / Alice Ali

FORM FOCUS

NICK THE BISCUIT accided to a Salbus in a 1744 4th of 9 in Diego in maiden at Linguistic (to claimer at Weberstampton (tos. 44) bengamate 27, ROUTENTABE stand 44 4th of 6 in Recussion Stand, SELMESTON 81 5th of 9 in Vitaduus in Bay in handrage at Salebury (tim 41, first) apprentice polarys' handrage here (tim) TAMMYAR

3.15 THAMES HANDICAP (£3,436: 1m 4l) (8 juniers)

(7) 501/025 MANE A MOTE 14 (D.F.G.S) (J Pugh) P East: 5-10-6. S.5.
14) 91215-0 MBLZAH 14 (D.F.G.S) (Mar P Charm) R Bestman 8-9-11. H Bestin
11) 3225-26 MBRITAL SANYTEN 2 (C.D.F.G.S) A Baker 19-4. A Rogide Gelfen
(3) 3315-47. TOY PROCESS 168 (D.G.) C Britan 9-19-1. A Rogide Gelfen
(5) 5013-31 SEAMMONT 7 (D.F.G.S) (P Commisphere) J Brots 6-8-9 (See). R Co.
(6) 105-005 CROSS TALK 6 (F) U Bogy R Hollocolesed 4-8-8. MY
(8) 1050-005 BACKNEW 21 (CD.G.) 6: D Makery I & Hewelby 4-8-8. T W

3.45 'NUMBER 1 IN 1996' HANDICAP (£5,256: 1m) (10 runners)

1995: LEGAL FICTION 4-8-9 D McKeown (9-4 lav) M Johnston 7 par

FORM FOCUS

Vision in Woherhampton Frankrap (1m 11 100yd).
MANABAR, 5%1 (4h ol 10 to Present Shuston in
taled stakes at Longhald (7h with AMSAL BOY (2ib)
worse nit) about 81 lest, SARAST neck 2nd of 9 to
Sharp Gazelie in seller here (1m 3f)
Selection: KOMBEPEV DANGER ENTLON bust effort 1% and head 3rd of 7 to Dune Rose in Engliefs handicap (fm). LITTLE BRIM best recent effort heat Cretin 5th next in Westerhausp-lon clatter (8) OUEBN OF ALL BRIDS best Moretie Resided Si to Lipstfeld Secretary. Master Bayeled & In Linguista handicap (1m). NOMPLEYEV DANCER 1) 2nd of 12 to Fleid ()

4.15 WELLAND SELLING STAKES

BETTING: 9-4 Bothy, 3-1 Marino Street, 7-2 Born A Lady, 11-2 Impington, 7-1 Supreme Busion, 12-1 General Equation, 16-1 others.

1995: NO CORRESPONDING RACE FORM FOCUS

BOFFY MJ 2nd of 11 to Myster Tempo to select at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with Wohenhampton (SI AW) with STREE, (2th bedier oil) 71/41 8th and VICTORIA STREE, (2th bedier oil) 71/41 8th and VICTORIA STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with VICTORIA STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with VICTORIA STREET 2 in 18-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with VICTORIA STREET 2 in 19 mm (SI AW) with VICTORIA STREET 11 5th STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with VICTORIA STREET 3 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with VICTORIA STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with VICTORIA STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with GENERAL EQUATION (2th bedier oil) short-head 7/4. White STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with GENERAL EQUATION (2th bedier oil) short-head 7/4. White STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with GENERAL EQUATION (2th bedier oil) short-head 7/4. White STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with GENERAL EQUATION (2th bedier oil) short-head 7/4. White STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with GENERAL EQUATION (2th bedier oil) short-head 8/4. White STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with GENERAL EQUATION (2th bedier oil) short-head 8/4. White STREET 2 in 12-runner sales at Wohenhampton (SI AW) with MICROR (SI

4.45 LADBROKE SERIES HANDICAP (Qualifier: £2,873: 5f) (8 runners)

Long templicap: Bonny Mistody 7-8 BETTING: 2-1 Propula Basin, 4-1 King Rambo, 5-1 Kater, Klex, 7-1 Femperature Lane, 10-1 Tafathus, 12-1 others 1995: SCORED AGAIN 5-8-12 Amenda Sanders (5-7 fze) M Histon-Elins 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

KING RAMBO 21 2nd of 11 to Chadwell Hell in handicap at Wokerlasspion (51 AW) on peruhanate stat, with FERTHERSTONE LANE (3to better off) 114(1 10to 134) and KALAR (3to better off) 114(1 10to 134)

COURSE SPECIALISTS 3. JOCKEYS 23.5 L Denote 23.4 J Wester 19.4 R Cochrane 15.2 J Fartare 15.0 C Teague Rides 186 214 155 118 109 L Dettori J Wester R Cochrane J Fortate C Teague

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Southwell: 3.45 Konneyev Dancer 4.15 Manno Street

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Lingfield Park Going: searcard 1,50 (Im 4) 1, One Off The Rafi (Cendy Monte, 11-2); 2, Never So Rite (7-2 Im); 3, Royal Expression (11-2), 9 mm. NR. Father Den 194, 5 A Moore, 10se; 25 40, 61 20, 52 00, 52 00, DF: \$11.90. This \$25.20 CSF \$24.59 Tricked: \$102.58

2.20 (8) 1, Capper Bright (J Waever, 7-2); 2, The Frisky Farmer (11-2), 3, Routendsons Stud (6-4 fee) 6 ran. NR: Ethn Cupen, 14, 244 P. Hastein, Too: 28.00; 52.10, 52.20 DF: 524.90 CSF, 621.67. 2-50 (im 2) 1, Sweet Suppositin (i, Destori, 15-8); 2, Mastrum (7-4 tav); 3, El Americo (20-7) 6 ran. NR: Heart O' Street 194; 40, C Dwyer, Tota; 53,45; 12,50, El 10, El 20, DF 23 60 Trio, £73.10, CSF 25 94.

3.20 (?) 1. Cormist Snow (j. Dettori, 1.4 tav. Newmarket Comespondent's nep and Private Handicapper's top rating); 2. Baranov (8-1); 3. Don't Get Caught (20-1).

FICHARD PARKS

Nap: BORN A LADY (4.15 Southwell) Next best: Primula Bairn 11 cm. NR Showtere Blues, 2kt, kt D Locar, Tote: \$1.50; \$1.10, \$2.00, \$2.50 OF: \$2.00, \$0.00; \$1.700; \$2.00, \$2.50 OF: \$2.00, \$0.00; \$1.700; \$2.50; \$2.50; \$1.700; \$2.00; \$1.700; \$2.00; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.700; \$1.70 Jackpot: £7,100.00 (part won; pool of £5,788.71 carned over to Southwell today).



SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

In the second round of this year's Macallan Camrose Trophy Wales beat England for the first time since 1977. It was a poignant occasion, as the Welsh player Alan Pierce, who had been selected for the team, had died the week before. His widow, Margaret Pierce, has provided a trophy in his memory for the annual contest between the two countries. So Wales, which has only beaten England five times in 53 years, becomes the first holder of the Pierce trophy.

Assisting partner is a key aspect of defence but it is rare that

Dealer: East	Love	ᆁ	IMP's		
	LOA				
	₩9	·.			
	◆AQ10975	:	,		
	4 J52	:		化氯化二甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基甲基	
e765		±943			
¥K 10832		VJ74			
+2		+K64	:		
∌ AQ64		★K10	8		
	± K 1082 .			7	
	VAQ65		· .	-, -, -,	
	4.14		•	9 - E -/	

Contract: 5NT by South Lead: three of hearts

4973

Both tables reached Three Notramps but, thanks to West's light opening of One Heart at one table. Wales with Jim Luck at the helm, were doubled. Peter Czerniewski led a low heart to the nine, jack and queen. Luck ran the jack of diamonds and David Price let this hold, so he could see his partner's discard on the next diamond. West threw a small heart, suggesting East try another suit Price found the club switch but he chose the .. would make his contract. So eight, and when West won the Jourdain also switched to a queen, he could not tell who had the king. Deciding that helpful king. The defence duly East had the king of spades. rather than the king of clubs, West simply switched back to hearts. This gave Luck II tricks for 750 to Wales. I think bridge Monday to Friday in West was wrong to play spades - if East had been

h. A concerted fool

REPULLULATE

b. A repulsive creep

c. To creep up again

a. To renew lamentations

ca donghill

looking at the king of spades he certainly would have con-

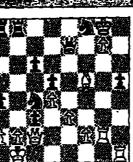
tinued hearts. In the Open Room the defence began exactly the same way with a heart to the queen and a diamond win-ning. But on the second dia-mond Tony Rateliff as West, made the spectacular discard of the king of hearts. This told his partner, Patrick Jourdain. that declarer held the ace and, on the normal heart return, club but he chose the more cashed four tricks in the suit for a further 50 to Wales and a

swing of 13 imps.

I Robert Sheehan writes on Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday. . --

c. Criminal environment a. Spiny b. Breakfast

Solution on page 46



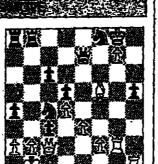
Times book

All games of the world title match are available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a Times book, World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anana (Batsford 19.99), Credit card orders should be tele-phoned on 01376 327901 piease quote 5/655).

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

White to move. This position is from the game Cacho -Clement, Spain 1996. In this exciting game of attack and counter-attack White has the initiative as it is his turn to move. How did he make the most of this with a fine finish?



Can . Lite Of A Lord Party Politics Lord Refle Milanehoma Son Of War Dextra Dove Flyer's Nap Into The Red The trend in recent years, since some of the sting has been taken out of the fences, has been for better quality horses to dominate the National, with

With the big chill showing no signs of abating, this is a good time to add to your ante-post portfolio, and the Grand National, with its reputation for being a lottery, sees the bookmakers in unusually generous mood.

the result that fewer horses have been able to rece of their correct marks. That is again the case this off their correct marks. That is again the case this year, with just 17 entries in the handicap proper. From a betting viewpoint, this means that many can be ruled out with confidence.

At first glance, Young Hustler's record in the race he has falled to complete the course in two attempts is off-putting. However, that does not tell the full story. He was brought down at the eleventh in 1994, and although he unseated Carl Llewellyn at the third last year, the jockeys quote alterwards of 1 just tell off was apt, as the mistake was so minor that he would normally have kept the partnership intact. Llewellyn has since lost the ride to Chris Maude, who rode Young Hustler to victory in the Sector

who rode Young Hustler to victory in the Becher Chase over the National fences last November, His tatest outing, at Sandown on Seturday, can be ignored as he is best on left-handed tracks, and his trainer, Nigel Twiston-Davies, is going through a quiet spell at the moment, YOUNG HUSTLER will start much shorter on the day than the 20-1 now start much single on the day that the 20-1 how evailable with Ladbrokes and William Hill. It the weights were to the significantly, Lo Stregone, Tartan Tyrant and Smith's Band would all have claims, but that looks highly unlikely and Rough Cuset makes more appeal. A taller on his last start at Leopardistown, he had center put up two excellent ar Lachardsown, he had center put up two excessions performances, finishing second in both the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup and the Betterware Cup. The 33-1 offered by Coral will not lest long and ROUGH QUEST rates solid each-way value.

By Philip Howard COXCOMB BLABAGOGY

a. Blaming others a. An eight's racing rudder b. Scented fieldwort JACULIFEROUS

> c. Bearing gifts Answers on page 46

Drop-outs deepen Sri Lanka's sense of loss

when your life is miserable. then what on earth is the point of them? And God knows, the people of Sri Lanka need cheering up. I am not suggesting for a second that a few cricket matches could diminish the horror of the Colombo bombing. but a spot of decent sport could, at least, allow the citizens of Colombo to set it aside for a few hours.

Yet Australia and West Indies are all set to drop out of their matches in Colombo. Thus they fail in their duty to Colombo, to Sri Lanka, to cricket and to the entire concept of international sport.

Sri Lanka is a sad and lovely island and, in 1981, I spent a happy couple of months there. I remember drinking the demon arak and talking late into the night with my late friend, Nalin: black sheep, as he told me, not without pride, of a famous family, a man who, among other memorable achievements, pioneered the plays of Jean Genet in Colombo.

Over the arak, we talked politics and cricket, for this is an island full of both. While I was in Colombo the police, seconded from the south to the raiding booze shops, attacking Tamils and torching the library in Jaffna. destroying a treasure-house of centuries-old Tamil manuscripts.

Jaffna was considered a no-go area so, naturally, I went, not brave but curious, eager for a damn good story wrote it up for the Far East Economic Review.) I encountered not violence but sadness, staying with a once-rich Tamil family reduced to taking in boarders.

'Australia

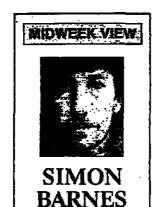
have made a

dreadful error

their home and property in the south destroyed by looters. They were not angry, certainy not supporters of the Tamil Tigers: just sad. As I was returning

of vision' south, waiting for a bus, a cyclist stopped, dismounting with that bewildering leg-flick that modesty requires of a dhoti-wearer. He asked me the all-important question of that year. "How is that bottom?" Mean-

ing, of course, Botham. Politics, sadness, cricket. All part of Sri Lankan life. Cricket is important because, in the midst of troubles, nothing cheers as much as triviality. Tickets for the Australia-West Indies match in Colombo sold out in two hours; they cost as much as the Sri Lankan average monthly wage.
It is Australia's blessing to be free



of war. As a result, they have come to a dreadful error of vision. They think that cricket is actually important. More, they think that cricketers are important, that cricketers have no duties beyond sport and themselves.

I am not saying that the idea of playing cricket in Colombo is a comfortable one. It remains true, however, that apart from the horrific exception of Munich in 1972, with the murder of the Israeli competitors, athletes have not, thank God, been the target of lethal political action. It is also true that England's 1984-85 cricket tour of India was similarly affected by political hor-rors. The Prime Minister, Indira days later, was the British Deputy High Commissioner, Percy Norris. Naturally, the cricketers were upset and wanted to go home. Instead, they went to Sri Lanka. Then, when the official period of mourning was over, they went back to India, continued the tour and won the series.

Top international athletes are, on the whole, a xenophobic bunch. But it is not that they are

uninterested in abroad; they are not interested. in much outside the neam or, if involved in individual sports, any-thing outside their own

هكذاف الدعل

This is not really a to cricket' criticism, it is simply an

aspect of the sporting mentality. Call it single-mindedness. I remember when covering a tour of India, I visited the Konorak Temple. You would expect most cricketers to display a passing interest in this monument, a short drive away from the team hotel. After all, it happens to be covered — absolutely encrusted — with pedantically detailed carvings of bosomy girls in a series of elaborate priapic grapples. But I think only Derek Pringle visited it, though perhaps Robin Smith went too.

only three of them went to visit the Great Wall. These, inevitably, were the three black players known as the Three Degrees, Cyrille Regis, the late Laurie Cunningham and Brendon

Batson_ Xenophobia, then, is part of sporting life. It has to be every time you visit a country, it represents the enemy. All this is inevitable, but those

of us who are not international athletes should not make the same error. That appears to be what has happened to Australia and, by craven imitation, West Indies

A suggestion, then. The New Zealanders, I

They fail in

their duty to

Colombo and

am sure, are above such a xenophobic and pusillanimous failure in the duty owed to international sport. England and New Zealand should offer to play their opening match in Colombo That way the poor, sad, bewildered Aussies will be able to play their own opening fixture against Sri Lanka in the comfort and safety of Ahmedahad.

Perhaps West Indies will meet Australia in the final of the World Cup. If so, we can only hope that they

TV link sets

up possible

Hamed and

Bruno bill

By Srikumar Sen

TWO of Britain's leading

sporting attractions, Frank

Bruno and Naseem Hamed. may feature in one of the most

exciting boxing presentations

seen in this country. Harned will defend his World Boxing Organisation (WBO) feather

weight title on March 16, at the Scottish Exhibition Centre,

Glasgow, just a few hours

before Bruno steps into the ring against Mike Tyson in

The bouts will be shown on

Sky Television, but the specta-

tors at Hamed's bout may be

able to see Bruno's defence on

the big screen in the hall. Frank Warren, the promoter

of the Glasgow show, is dis-cussing the logistics of putting on the double feature with

Don King, Tyson's promoter,

and Showtime, the American

Hamed's contest, which will

be against Said Laval, of

Nigeria, will also be shown

live in the United States. Joe

There is a possibility of

Bugner may also be on th

Bruno being shown [at the Scottish Exhibition Centre],"

Warren said "We have to

finalise what Sky are doing.

But it will be one of the biggest

Hamed said that he regret

ted not being on the Bruno

card in Las Vegas, but added:

"I like being the main attrac-

tion because I think that is where my role is." Warren

said: "People are going to be

sitting up in the morning

wanting to see the Bruno fight.

They have got nothing else to-

An injured right hand has

prevented Hamed boxing

since he won the WBO title

from Steve Robinson in Sep-

tember. He said that he had

not required an operation on

his hand, as had been report-ed, but had undergone coru-

sone injections and physio-

therapy. Hamed is back in

training but has not started

sparring. Nonetheless, the Sheffield boxer insisted that he

would be in shape to "knock

Hamed has his sights set on a

defence against Arnulfo Castilio, of Mexico, and a

challenge to Azumah Nelson

for the super-featherweight

title in September in Britain.

out Laval" in March.

do, so I thought, 'let's get this

nights for British boxing."

Glasgow undercard.

cable television company.

Firing from the pulpit **

As diary-keeping clergymen, William Holland and Francis Kilvert were the chalk and cheese of 19th-century England. Kilvert was gentle, sensitive and unworldly. Holland, whose diaties have been gentle, sensitive and unworldly. Holland, whose charles have been adapted by Evic Pringle as a three part serial starring Ronald Pickup, was worldly, eccentric and choleric. He had a list of better noires as long as his arm. Top of the list were "the heathen French," the Catholics, the Methodists and the Dissenters. He used words that would make a trooper blush. "You Quantock horse-dropping," and you Somerset barrel!" he would bawl at his groom. His pulpit was more of a firing range than a relations for preaching the Cospel. I more of a firing range than a platform for preaching the Gospel. I was tickled to bits to make his acquaintance.

A Good Read. Radio 4 FM, 10.00am.

At the risk of being branded a spoilsport, I can disclose what is in store for you when Edward Blishen asks his guests, both of diem celebrated biographers, to name their book choices. Oddly enough, neither of them selects a biography. Lord Jenkins of Hillihead, whose life of Gladstone recently won a Whithread Prize, chooses Anthony Provel's From a View to a Cleath Claim Tomalin over for Wayneley. Powell's From a View to a Death. Claire Tomalin opts for Waverley. which was responsible for divering Sir Walter Scott away from verse and into prose. And the chairman's choice? Palace Walk, the first of the Cairo Trilogy novels by Naguib Mahfouz, the Egyptian-born winner of the 1988 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo 4.00am Cive Warren 6.30 Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Meyo 12.60 Chris Evans 9.00 Smort Mayor 12.80
Lisa l'Anson, Inci at 12.30-12.45pm
Newsbeat and at 1.15 file Net 2.00
Nictor Campbel 4.00 Mark Goodies, Inci at 5.30-5.45. Newsbeat, 6.15 file Net 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Radio Tip-Top 10.00 Mark Radolffellidhight Wendy Lloyd, inci at 12.15am The Net

FM Stereo. 8.00em "Sereh Kennich). 8.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruse. 15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruse. 11.30 Jimmy: Young 2.00pm Debble Thrower 3.30 Ed Stevent 5.05 John-Dunn 7.00 Jim Lloyd with Fölk on 2.8.00 Peggy Seeger talks to Jim Uoyd; (65). 8.30 Flock Island Line. The history of skiffe (44) 9.00 Kaisol Calypso. (45). 9.30 Nigel Oyden 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05eer Steve Medician 3.00-d.00 Alex Lester

S.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, Incl 6.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Megazins, Incl 10.35 Euroneus 11.30 Natural History 12.00 Middley with Mair, Incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck, and at 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05 Riscoe on Five, Incl at 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Edna, Incl at 7.20 sport.7.35 Trevor Brooking's Football Night 10.05 7.00 News Edna, Inc. at 7.20 sport 7.00 Trevor Brooking's Football Night 10.05 News Talk 11.30 Night Edna, Inc. at 11.15 Financial World Tonight 12.05em After Hours 2.05 Up All Night

RADIO 5 LIVE

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sendy War 7.00 Simon Bates 10.00 Jonethen Ying 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raebum 4.00 Scott Chistion 7.00 Sean Bolger 9.00 Moz Dee 10.00 James Whate 1.00-6.00em

WORLD SERVICE

Shelf 7.30 Discovery 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Fathr 8.15 Thinty-Minute Drama 8.45. How to Listen 8.00 News in German 9.15 Andy Kenshew 9.45 Sport 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 SBC English 10.45 Off the Shelf 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Meridian 12.00 News 12.05pm Business Report 12.15 British Today 12.30 Composer of the Month 10.00 News 12.05 Off the Month 10.00 News 2.00 News 2.05 Outhold 2.30 12.30 Composer of the Month 1.00
Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30
Megamix 3.00 News in German 33
The Greenfield Collection 4.00 News
4.15 World Today 4.30 News 1.06 Pminn
5.00 Europe Today 5.30 Business
Report 5.45 Sport 8.00 News Summary
7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30
Multimack X-Press 8.00 News Summary
7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30
Multimack X-Press 8.00 News 5.17 Faith 7.30
Multimack X-Press 8.00 News 1.15 British
Today 9.30 The Story of Western Music
10.00 Newsclesk 10.30 The World
Today 10.45 Sport 11.45 From OrOwn Correspondent Midnight
Newsdesk 12.30am How to Listen
12.45 British 1.90 News 1.10 Press
1.15 New Ideas 1.35 The Planets 1.45 12.45 Eggart 1.30 Nams 1.10 Press 1.15 New Ideas 1.35 The Planets 1.45 Country Style 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Sport 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Assignment 4.00 Newsdask 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

9.00 Henry, Kelly, 12.00 Susantah-Smors 2.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jamie Cricle 5.00 Netenight 6.39 Sonata 7.00 Gerdering Forum (f) 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00em Ruse in Jone 9.00 Richard Stimer 12.00 Grahem Done 4.00em Nicky Home 7.30 Paul Coyle 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00-5.00em Robin Banks

6.00am On Air. Faure (Requiern, original version); Haydn (Symphony No 88 in G. Lette V); Viveldi (Concarto in A); Watton, air Hindmarsh (A. Wartime Sketchbobk); Susato (Faritare; Passe et medio; Bergrette, Danseyes; Bergerette, Danserye); D'Albert (Pieno Concerto No

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Walton (Overture: Portsmouth Point); Liszt (Vallée d'Obermann, Années de pèlerinage); Britten (Five French folk songs); Haydn (Symphony. No 45 in F sharp minor,

Farewell). 10.00 Musical Encounters: Dufay (Supremum est mortalibus) (Supremum est monatious); Vasis (Cantablie); Prokofiev (Plano Sonata No 5, original version); 10.32 Artist of the Week: Nancy Argenta, soprano). Montáclair (La Mort de Didon); 10.46 Debussy (Three Preludes, Bik I); Charpentier (Lamentations sur la most de la reine Maria. la mort de la retne Marie-Thérèse); Brahms (Violin

ers of the Week Composers of the Week: Les Str. Poulenc (Alerte, Mouvements perpétuels); Auric (Les Fächeux, excerpt); Durey (Le Bestielre); Honegger (Horace victorieux): Durey (Le Printemps au fond

de la rrieri

1.00pm Birmingham Lunchtime
Concert. David Owen Norris,
piano. Bax (Piano Sonata No
2 in G): Lambert (Piano
Sonata

Sonata)
2.00 Schools: Together 2.00 Time
and Tune 2.40 Drama

3.00 Midwesk Choice. Including Waldi (Concerto in A minor); Brahms (Plano Pieces Op 76, excepts)

Tommy Pearson 5.15 In Tune, Purcell (Chacony in

(Adlestrop); Eigar (Introduction and Allegro) Brüggen; Nancy Argenta, seprenc; Ronald Brautigem, tortepiano. Haydn (Symphony No 50 in C); Mozart (Exsultate, jubitate); Vanhal (Symphony in G minor); Mozart (Piano Concerto No.

23 in A) 9.10 History Then and Now. Presented by Roy Porter. Peter Burke and Min Rubin

examine historical image-making 9.30 University of Wates Recital. 9.30 University of Wates Recital, Rolf Hind, piano. Debussy (Brouillards; Feuilles mortes; Général tavine — eccentric; La Terrasse des audiences du clair de lune; Feux, d'artifice; Les Fées sont d'exquisse denseuses); Bartok (Suite: Out of Doors); Boulez (Piano Sonata No 2); 10.45 Night Waves. Includes a first reght review of Matthew Hart's new work for the Royal Ballet to music by Benjamin Britter;

to music by Benjamin Britten: Lisa Jardine taking to novelist Arry Ten; and a look at British design as the Royal College of Art celebrates its centenary. 11:30-12.30am Volces; lain Burnside considers birds and

1.00-1.20 Night School, Verseplay

5.55am Shippping (LW crity) 6.00 News 8.10 Ferming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today Ind. 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parlament 8.58 Weather

RADIO 4

8.58 Weether
9.00 News 9.05 Michweek
10.00-10.30 News; A Good Read
(FM cnly). See Choice
10.00 Dally Servica (LW only)
10.15 This Scepti'd Isle (LW only)
10.30 Woman's Hour. Introduced by Jerni Muray
11.30 Gerdeners' Question Time:
Pippa Greenwood, Nigel
Coborn and Geoffrey Smith
answer some of the questions
posed by the gardeners of

posed by the gardeners of Kincardineshire, Scotland (r) 12.00 News; You and Yours 12.25pm Capital Gains Collin Johnson's drama series about Julius Huston, an amateur utilizarches leptice. ameteus philosopher looking toward to retirement, who wakes early one morning to find his life has changed for ever (1/4) (r) 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shinolo Everent

Shipping Forecast
2.00 News, Paupers and Pig.
Killers, See Choice
2.45 Letters from Here and
There. The Netherlands
3.00 News, The Affethoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kateldoscope.

Paul Gambeccini reviews new

mm releases
4.45 Short Story: A Good Love
Story, by Puth Carter. A
writer searching for an idea
for a good love story is
provided with just the thing

when she meets a man in a lift looking for a risqué show Read by Elizabeth Songgs

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast
5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 No Job Too Small (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Face the Facts
7.45 Times Past, Times Future,
Jerany Pasman cheirs a "Vidiscussion on the future of
the BBC with Sir Alan
Peacock, Lord Bernet, Gererd
Mensell, Tony Smith and
Brian Wenham (4/6)
8.30 Still Lives, Harry Thompson
mets people still living in the
house where they were born
Alone in her tiny cottage on
the wild desolate Morayshire
coastinis, Ciristine recalls
stiaring rabbits, residing the snaring rabbits, making the innerant village cow and watching dolphins playing in

the bay (r)
9.00 Eurelia. Or Barbara Myers
talks to Robert May, Chief
Scientific Adviser to the British Government (2/5) (r) 9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, With

Isabel Filton
10.45 Book at Bedtimer God
Stand Up for Bastards.
Journelist and suffice Toxicl
Leith reads its

autobiography (3/8)
11,00 On Baby Street. Final episode of the cornedy drams. about three pregnent women 11,30 Missed Demeanours (FM Canours (FM ority) Comedy panel game (r) 11.30 Today in Parliament (LW

12.00 News incl 12.27mm Weather 12.30 The Late Book: Reef. Shiv Grewal reads Romesh Guneseker's linst novel (3/7) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 327.6-99.8. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-924. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198. MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 698, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648. LW 198 (12.45-555am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197. 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio hatings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillan Maney, Resembly Smith and Susan Thomson

Dividing lines from ground-laying meeting reappear

Why trouble has dogged World Cup from start

By Simon WILDE

IT WAS not originally intended that the sixth cricket World Cup should be staged on the Asian sub-continent. As long ago as 1989, the tournament was earmarked for England. Then came the infamous meeting of the International Cricket Council (ICC) at Lord's on February 2, 1993, which one experienced administrator

described as a "shambles". That meeting, which was destined to last 13 hours. reached deadlock because India and Pakistan, already promised the seventh staging of the event, had submitted 🗕 along with Sri Lanka — a financially superior bid to England's for the 1996

tournament Neither bid could secure the necessary two-thirds majority of votes. England were backed hy Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and West Indies: the three Asian countries by Zimbabwe and a majority of associate member nations. Each of the nine Test-playing countries carried two votes, each of the 19 associate members one. Under both bids all would have been financially rewarded, though slightly bet-

ter under the Asian one. The impasse was resolved by England's magnanimous decision to step aside. "After hours getting nowhere." Alan Smith, the chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board, said, "it was clear that under ICC rules there was deadlock. Indeed, there seemed a grave danger of the ICC totally disintegrating. In the best and wider interests of the world game, England agreed to withdraw their bid."

It is noticeable that in the present dispute over whether matches should be staged in Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe and Kenya, an associate member, remain aligned with the hosts. while Australia and West Indies stay in the opposite camp.

dence, although Kenya and

Zimbabwe may feel an obliga tion to stand by those they supported three years ago. And while England have expressed sympathy for the di-lemma that faces Australia and West Indies. South Africa through the mouth of Ali Bacher - have not. There will certainly be sev-

eral delegates who attended the Lord's meeting in 1993 smiling ruefully and saying to themselves that it would not have been thus had the tournament gone to its first home. That would be a trifle unfair because the previous time the World Cup was staged on the sub-continent, in 1987, it passed off with scarcely a hitch and the organisers were

widely praised. Ironically, the Cup was won on that occasion by Australia. Under the leadership of Allan Border, a young side reached fulfilment, coping well with the difficulties of the heat and humidity. The tournament, hosted only by India and Pakistan, was played under the slogan Cricket for Peace.

Since then, though, the subcontinent has descended into deeper and more intractable difficulties. Apart from the long-running troubles in Sri Lanka, relations between India and Pakistan have deteriorated, with border skirmishes a regular occurrence.

India and Pakistan have not met on anything but a neutral venue for seven years because of threats of disruption from fundamentalists, and have been kept apart in the qualifying stages. Another irony is that the organisers discussed what should be done if the sides met during the knockout stages and considered switching the match, for security reasons, to Colombo. The idea was discounted.

Some, but not all, of the problems of the past week might have been eased had the organisation been left to the ICC, but it was decided at that



The 1987 World Cup was a triumph for the organisers, and Border, the winning captain

in 1993 that Pilcom, the joint Pakistan-India-Sri Lanka organising committee, should

act as agents for the ICC. That was in the days before the ICC had full independence from Marylebone Cricket Cricket - whose secretary and president automatically occupied senior positions within the ICC — and such a situation will not happen again. Also,

same fateful meeting at Lord's now determined by fixed rota, with England scheduled to stage the event next, in 1999.

The cost to the Sri Lanka cricket board of the events of the past week may be great. It had been looking forward especially to the matches against Australia and West Indies at the 35,000-seat Premadasa Stadium, which were sold out but will not now take place - at least not in Sri

The board has not vet decided whether to refund tickets and is fearful of losing money from advertising reve-nue and television rights.

2/2

Pilcom is looking at the financial obligations of participating teams, but there is believed to be little in the agreement signed by the com-

peting countries in the way of penalty or liability clauses if they refuse to fulfil their

the venue for the World Cup is Lanka. SNOW REPORTS

Conditions Runs to (5pm) Last ANDORRA 60 160 powder powder open sno (7/21 litts open, tresh powder to en;py, wndy) AUSTRIA Kitzbühei (57/64 lifts open, great paste sleing on upper slopes)
5 35 fair vaned closed sun -8
(29/30 lifts open, icy/wom areas, show torepast) Mayrhofen (0 100 good good open sun (Resort fully open, near perfect conditions) (0 60 good powder fair fine Obergurgi Schladming (Resort fully open, excellent skung at all levels) FRANCE . 75 230 good varied open show 4 (72/82 lifts open, fresh pawder, improving conditions) 35 165 good varied open cloud 3 (63/77 lifts open, most areas essemblity good) 20 70 fair varied closed cloud 3 (62/68 lifts open, great paste sking in Counchevel) 85 145 good powder good show -14 Alpe D'huez 6/2 Les Arcs **La Тапка** 85 145 good powder good snow (47/51 lifts open, excellent skiing at all levels) Tignes TTALY 100 300 good powder good sun -14 2/2 (Ali 25 lifts open, near perfect conditions) Cervina SWITZERLAND fair varied closed cloud -2 5/2 (34/41 lifts open, upper slopes good parchy low down)
20 110 good vaned open sun -5
(10/13 lifts open, upper levels good, Schilzhorn hard)
40 40 tetr varied open sun -5 40 tair varied open (Icy lower slopes, good otherwise)

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower stopes, U - upper; art - artificial.

WORD WATCHING Auswers from page 43 СОХСОМВ

(b) A conceited ass. Much the same as popinjay, but with the emphasis more on the asinity and less on the conceit. The two terms can be used in the one insult without redundancy. The etymology is from cock's combe—the cap originally worn by professional jesters or fools, such as Feste and

(c) To sprout again as a plant, to recur as a disease. Pullulating is not a more thing to happen. This is the right verb to describe the reappearances of your beloved's young brother at the sitting room door while you are engaged in an affectionate text-a-text with the dear girl. BLABAGOGY

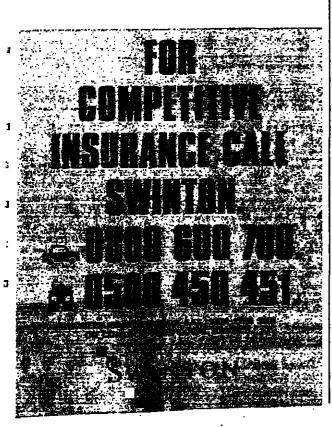
(c) A criminal environment, from the Greek for a congregation of villains and sinners. **JACULIFEROUS** (a) Possessing spines like darts, from the Latin jaculum a dart or javelin a

ferro, ferre, tuli, latum I bear or carry. SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

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ng expands i

THE PLANE

a samme

ar File how

gration in

Concern is voiced over intrusive cameras ne of the occupational you are not in for many laughs. working opposite ends of the hazards of spending hours Two of the Big Three were on Crush Bar without talking to each alone in a darkened room duty last night and I'll begin with watching strange documentaries is . Robinson on the grounds that The House (BBCZ) has become an almost unmissable event. That that you become specially attuned to particular narrators. It's like acquiring a new set of friends said, when Robinson opens with they only have to utter a few words "Act two of Wagner's marathon and you pretty much know what opera Die Meistersinger and the sort of evening you are in for. trumper players have time on their Let me introduce you. First, meet hands ... "you sense that Michael

Waldman's wonderful series is beginning to run out of puff. Last night, despite Robinson's best endeavours, the dramas were few and far between, Mike Morris, these days - BBC2 again, could be our man in personnel at the Royal wine, could be managerial melo- Opera House, finally got a new agreement with the unions, revealing in the process that the basic rate for stage crew was around £27,000 a year. At £200 a ticket. 1 made that three rows of front stalls per salary. Presumably, Jeremy

issacs gets the circle.
What else? We met the harmen who have spent the last 30 years

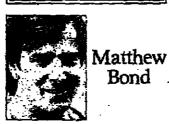
other - "there's a sea of tranquillity between us". We eavesdropped on auditions for The Nutcracker at the Royal Ballet School, where young talent succumbed to trial by whispered asides. Every performance will be different - she'll forget where she's going."

And we met Naomi, the pretty 12-year-old who was picked to play Clara for the opening night, didn't forget where she was going and danced beautifully. "Ooh, I feel all tingly," trilled the school's principal from the wings. Bah, happy endings, can't bear ent.

ctually, by that stage, we were in need of a few happy A endings. A double dose of Sachs, a little earlier, had been conspicuously short of them. Sachs's duties began with Great Ormond Street (BBCI), a programme very similar in style to



Bond



The House but with a wholly different emotional impact. These are real, life-threatening crises and what we are doing watching them escapes me. I have this ghastly picture of a BBC producer creeping up to tearful parents to ask: "Do you mind if we film your every move while you wait to see whether your daughter pulls through? We won't be in the way. Sorry, was that a yes or a snivel?"

Goodness knows what the Amiad family can have made of it. having flown in from Pakistan with their seriously ill daughter, Sarah. Perhaps all patients in British hospitals have film crews following them. Pretty soon, of course, they will have.

Sarah's story was doubly awful. First, because the original, very reassuring prognosis turned out to be horribly wrong. In tightly edited succession, Sarah went from "I can't promise, but you probably won't need an operation to biopsies, ultrasounds scans, an operation, pathology tests, and eventually chemotherapy. The news was broken blundy to her worried parents but nothing like as blumily as it was to the cameras in the operating theatre. "I don't think it's looking good . . . it looks like a very nasty tumour...!

wouldn't be too optimistic." The second unedifying aspect of Sarah's treatment was the struggle

her parents had paying for it. The cameras watched as an initial deposit of £4,000 (raised by her extended family) was quickly used up. "I can pay another £2,000 tomorrow," promised her father. The hospital, fairly but firmly, insisted on another £4,000. The treatment eventually cost the family £30,000. I wouldn't have blamed Mr Amjad if had turned to the cameras and asked the BBC to pay for the film rights.

achs was back again later with The Decision (Channel 4), a series that honours its promise to look at the ethics of modern medicine but often ignores the underlying science. Last night, the dilemma under consideration was that facing transsexuals, the unfortunate one in 17,000 trapped inside bodies of the wrong gender. The cameras followed three transsecuals travelling to Amster-

dam in search of happiness, hor-

believed they were." No further evidence. "It is a very simple diagnosis." No further evidence. Many children grow out of their gender confusion." No evidence and no quantification — which was worrying, given that one of our subjects was 13-and-a-half. He had been born she, was called Becky at school. Fred at home but actually wanted to be Rick. He wanted Rick to be short for Richard but had run into

parental opposition familiar to

adolescents of either sex. His well-

intentioned mother wanted Rick to

be short for Reuben. That's going

to make my life even harder at school." I think he had a point.

gery. But on the way we ignored

several bits of important science.

Post-mortems reveal that the

brains of transsexuals are the

brains of the gender they always

Lynne Truss is on holiday

MAZE FRECT 6.00am Business Breakfast (15552) 7.00 BBC Breekfast News (Ceefax) (45823) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Cealex) (4110939)

the supremely calm Veronika

Hyks - she normally means we

are on BBC2 watching serious

science. Then there's Jancis Robin-

son. Hardly needs an introduction

drama, normally some nice music

playing in the background. An-

drew Sachs, now he's more diffi-

cult — a sort of cross-channel

utility narrator who can pop up

anywhere with anything but tends

to specialise in medicine and the

tragedy of the human condition.

When you hear Sachs, you know

9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (3364674) 9.45 Kitroy (s)(8645718)

10.30 Good Morning (s) (24991) 12.00 News (Ceetax), regional news and weather (6068755) 12.05pm Turnabout (s) (9539823)

12.30 Going for a Song (s) (34991) 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (49910) 1.30 Regional News and weather (77662620).

1.40 Neighbours. Karl clashes with Malcolm (Ceelax) (s) (34457007) 2.00 Pebble Mill (Cesfax) (s) (9719910) 2.45 Hawkeye (s) (3563991)

3.30 Moomin (5043026) 3.50 Bitsa (s) (5023262) 4.10 Rugrats (f) (s) (6944755) 4.35 Agent Z and the Penguin from Mars (Ceefax) (s) (4569692) 5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (5493295) 5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (s) (1756194)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (684649) N.L.: 5.35 Inside Uister 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceelax) and weather

6.30 Regional News Magazines (484) N.1.: 6.30 Neighbours (f) (Cestax) (s) 7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel

surprises another unsuspecting personality (Ceetax) (s) (9129) 7.30 May to December. Until its Time for You to Go. in the last of the series Alec fears that Zoe has found a younger man; and Vera is desperate to get rid of her imitating secretary: With Anton Rodgers and Lesley Durlop (1) (Ceefas) (s) (688):

8.00 How Do They, Do That? Earnon,
Holmes and Jenny Hull reveal more secrets of television and film. Plus stories of achievement from the fields of

medicine, science, sport and entertainment (Ceelax) (s) (982823) 8.50 Points of View. Anne Robinson presents more viewers' opinions on BSC programmes (Ceefax) (s) (786729)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceetex), regional news and weather (5194): P.30 Hetty

Houses (Ceefax) (s) (566939) 10.20 Sportsnight. Desmond Lynam, with Alan

Hansen, presents highlights from tonight's FA Cup fourth-round replays; and snooker from the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley featuring an alf-Scottish second-round clash between world champion Stephen Hendry and youngster John Higgins (s) (31016397) Dooley and Jane Curtin. Tiresome film based on a National Lampoon short story

12.25 FILM: O.C. and Stiggs (1987) staming Daniel H. Jenkins, Neill Barry, Paul in which two hyperactive teenagers find themselves matconed in suburble for the summer. They decide to wreak havoc in the neighbourhood and do everything within their power to ensure that life doesn't become dull. Directed by Robert Altman (363866) -

2.10am Weather (2650137)

BBC2 6.00am Open University: Computing (2001397), 6.25 The Planet Earth: A Scientific Model (2080804) 6.50 Ottomen

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (Costax and signing) (s) (6422026) 7.30 Stingray (1) (Ceefad) (302:16) 8.00 Puntite Risk (1) (Ceefad) (3082:561) 8.25 Wishing (1) (s) (84878:56)

8.40 The Record. Yesterday in Parliament (s) (4925709) 9.05 Daytime on Two: The Art (4100552) 9.25

English Express (4293218) 9.45 Words and Pictures (4377692) 10.00 Pleydays (5555804) 10.25 Numbertime (8505552) (339620) 11.25 Narrocentre (3000032) 10.45 Cabs: Eyes (9910649) 11.20 Music Makers (7775668) 11.40 Moving to English (2701939) 12.00 TV6 (84002) 12.30 pm Working Lanch (32533) 1.00 Geography: (22108736) 1.20 Zig Zag (22111200) 1.40 Come Outside (24485866) (34455649)

2.00 Wishing (r) (s) (36665736) 2.10 Snooker and Racing from Ascot. Snocker action from Wembley Conference Centre and Ilve coverage of the 2,30, 3.05 and 3.35 races from Ascot includes News regional news and weather at 2,50 (688281) 3.55 News (Ceefax) regional news and weather

(1986839) 4.00 Snooker — the Masters Further coverage from Wembley (s) (3378) 6.00 Star Trek: The Next Gener

Starring Patrick Stewart and Jonathan Frakes (Ceetax) (s) (253705) 6.45 The O Zone. Music magazine (s) (600910)

Video Nation: Life, Death, God and Everything 7.001 (210397) 7.50 Tex Avery. Classic canoon (261465) 8.00 University Challenge. Second round. The Landon School of Economics v Keele

University (Ceefex) (s) (3991) 8.30 Oella Smith's Winter Collection. In the final programme of the series Della bakes a selection of scores and cakes (Ceefax) (s) (2026)

9.00 Yes, Minister: The Moral Dimension. Classic comedy (r) (Ceetax) (3736) Under the Sun: A Caterpillar Moon (Cealax) (s) (557281)

10.20 What the Papers Say (s) (498303)



Historian Marina Warner (11.150m)

11.15 The Big Idea. Marina Warner talks about ferminist perspectives on classical legends (s) (892007) 11.45 Weather (682858)

11.50 The Midnight Hour (s) (151736) 12.30em-6.00 The Learning Zone: Open

A CONTRACT Video Nation: Life, Death. God and Everyth BBC2, 7.00pm

Nobody pretends that the video diarists recruited for this project are a scientific sample. Even so the degree of religious observance which they practise is striking for onsevance which they practise is striking for a country where 90 per cent of the population ranely goes near a church. This programme is mainly about the rest, as the contributors address themselves to such profound questions as the origins of the human species, the existence of God, the healing power of faith and whether there is life after death. Of all the interviewees by far the most assumed and least doubting is the summeet assored and least doubting is the youngest. For Jonathan Scarmanga, wise well beyond his modest ten years, there is not only a God, for the good reason that there has to be a supernatural explanation for the universe, but also a heavenly Alton Towers with water slides and rock music.

Under the Sun: A Caterpillar Moon BBC2, 9.30pm

It is August in the heart of Africa and the Aka pygmies are making their way to the rainforest in search of caterpillars and other delicacies. As caterpillars are in short supply this year, the diet must be made up in other ways, from fruit, honey and even the occasional rat or antelope. The series on unusual cultures cannot get much further away from Western experience than this. Not only has the 20th century failed to touch Not only has the 20th century failed to touch these Africans, but the preceding 19 as well. For some 2,000 years the pygmies have been "owned" by the local villagers, for whom they are required to work (and provide caterpillars) in return for salt, cigarettes and occasional clothes. Despite their long association, there is no love lost between the association, determined in over the vertical de-two groups. Villagers reckon that all pygmies steal. The pygmies say the villagers are no better than chimpanzees.

Hetty Wainthropp Investigates BBC1, 9-30pm

The bad news, for the ten million and more regular fans of the OAP detective, is that this is the last in the series. The good news is that started with two questions. Could Patricia Routledge shed Hyacinth Bucket? And would viewers believe that an ordinary Lancashire housewife, having just turned 60, would decide to turn sleuth? The audience figures have emphanically removed both doubts. We should have known that Routledge was far too good an actress to be typecast. We could not have anticipated the brilliance of Dominic Monaghan as Hetty's young assistant. Ingenious, often unusual plots and authentic Lancashire settings have been further pleasures. Hetty's final assignment, until 1997, involves a 16-year-old single mother suspected of arson.

Short and Curlies: A Martial Kind of Men

Channel 4, 9.45pm The synopsis says that this dark little tale by the novelist Tim Willocks is set in a village in central Asia. What British soldiers are doing fighting, is not made clear, but it does not matter. It is sufficient to know that four teenagers, new to battle, get separated from their section and encounter a fugitive corporal. His cynicism, and their inexperience, converge on the prospect of recovering a bottle of beer from open ground. But sniper fire renders the operation hazardous. Devon Dickson, a director not long graduated from the Royal College of Art, scores with his dramatic use of colour, using warm orange-brown for the soldiers' temporary cover and cold blue for the noman's land-outside. Peter Waymark 6,00am GMTV (2595668) 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (3276465) 9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (5565281) 10.00 The Time . . . the Piece (s) (1716200)

10.35 This Morning (15674007) 12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (6084933) 12.30 News and weather (Teleteot) (3491674) 12.55 Shortland Street (s) (8129216) 1.20 Coronation Street (r) (Telesex)

1.50 Home and Away (Telelext) (64165179) 2.20 Chain Letters (Teletext) (s) (57953910) 2.50 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (3765552) 3.20 News (Teletext) (2095571)

3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (2094842) 3.30 Potemus Park (s) (1557216) 3.40 Wizadora (r) (s) (3492026) 3.50 The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat (s) (3481910) 4.00 Terror Towers (Teletext) (s) (823) 4.30 Dette Wave (Teleted) (s) (197) 5.00 Garfield and Friends

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (8419910) 5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (850755) 6.00 Home and Away. Dodge and Steven jump off a cliff (r) (Teletext) (638533) 6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (803736)

7.00 Wish You Were Here..? Judith Chaimers treks through parts of New England, John Carter takes a city break in Granada, Spain: and Anna Walker finds out what self-catering in Portugal is like (Teletext) (s) (1397)



No joy for Ken and Denise (7,30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street, Denis makes a reappearance. Diges this mean that Ken will have a fight to keep Daniel? (Teletext)

8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. Among his guests tonight are Mariah Carey and, still going strong, the Beach Boys and Status Quo (s) (8397) 9,00 Hollywood Men; The High Life. The programme looks at how brutal Tinsel Town can be when you get older

(Teletext) (s) (8533) 10.00 News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (85295) 10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (938649) 10.40 FiLM: The Boost (1988) starring James Woods, Sean Young and John Kapelos. An intense and involving morality tale

based on the novel Ludes by Benjamin

Stein. A yuppie embarks on the road to

"boost". Directed by Harold Becker 12.25am God's Gift (8519934) 1,25 Dear Nick (8733040) 2.25 Bushell on the Box (f) (a) (7956066) 2.55 Murder, She Wrote (r) (8986068) 3.55 Coach (s) (27585576) 4.20 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (1702392) 5.00 The Village Show (95750)

5,30 Morning News (20359)

The state of the s As HTV WEST except: 6,25pm-7.00 Wales Tonight (803736)

As HTV West except 12.25-12.30 My Story (6165858) 12.55 Coronation Street (3303465) 1,25 Chain Letters (84702939)

1.55-2.25 Home and Away (79010020)

2.25 Vanessa. A studio discussion on a woman's topic, charred by Vanessa Feltz (57952281) 2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (3279858) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8419910)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (44378) CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55 Home and Away (3303465) 1.25 Chain Letters (84702939) 1.55 A Country Practice (34454910) 2.20 Vanessa (57953910) 2.50-3.20 Our House (3765552) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8419910)

2.25am The Good Sex Guide... Late (2977750) 3.20 Jones and Jury. Two women sue a computer consultant over the sale of an exclusive lesbian mailing list (44090205)

6.25 Central News and Weather (646552)

6.55-7.00 Life Line (416668)

3.45 Jobfinder (100972) 5.20 Asian Eye (1212682) MERIDIAN As HTV West except: 12,55pm-1.25 Chain Letters (3303465) 1,25 Home and Away (84702939)

1.55 A Country Practice (34454910) 2.20 Vanessa (57953910) 2.50-3.20 Special Babies, Susie Thomson, the mother of two boys, goes into labour hoping for a girl (3765552) 5.10 Home and Away (8419910)

5.37-5.40 Three Minutes - Freescreen (373194) 5.00 Meridian Tonight (200) 6.30-7.00 Birdwatch with Chris Packham

(552) 5.00am Freescreen (95750)

Sic : Starts: 6.35 Think Tenk (5189533) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (39533) 9.00 Fifte (19194) 9.30 Out for Adventure (56113) 9.30 ichooks (7527115) 9.45 Book Box (6072020) 10.00 Stage Two Science (8597533) 10.15 The French Programme (8851264) 10.35 Irish Writers (7451939) 10.55 Film and Video Showcase (9929397) 11.07 Schools at Work (3672991) 11.15 The Mix (7172571) 11.30 Rat-(36/2591) 11.15 The mix (///25/1) 11.35 nest-a-Tat-Tat (2709571) 11.45 First Edition (2704026) 12.00 House to House (357/8) 12.30pm Wowser (30129) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (32620) 1.30 Film: Buttato Bill (50684991) 3.10 The Montel Williams Show: Long Distance Love (3646910) 4.00 Backdat 4.30 Ride On (649) 5.00 5 Pump; Rownd a Rownd (5489194) 5.15 5 Pump: Ffel (9798002) 5,30 Countdown (129) 6.00 Newyddion (190303) 6.15 Heno (545200) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (949571) 7.25 Dim Ond Celf (287674) 8.00 Dim Cliw (1587) 8.30 Newyddion (7194) 9.00 Y Parc (2303) 10.00 Brookside (85277) 10.30 E.R: Days Like This (85571) 11.30 Cybill: Look Whos Stalking (21026) 12.00am Flim: A Pin for the Butterfly (99962494) 2.10 Dhredd

6.35am Think Tank (r) (Teletext) (5) (5189533)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (39533) 9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Teletext) (s) (19194)

9.30 Schools Out for Adventure (7527115) 9.45 Book Box (6072020) 10.00 Stage Two Science (8597533) 10.15 The French Programme (8851264) 10.35 Irish Writers (7451939) 10.55 Film and Video Work (3672991) 11.15 The Mx (7172571) 11.30 Rat-A-Tat-Tat (2709571) 11.45 First Edition (s) (2704026)

12.00 House to House(35718) 12.30pm Sesame Street (41484) 1.30 Madeline (r) (s) (52460741) 1.55

Magoo's Masquerade (17754007) 2.00 FiLM: Les Miserables (1952). Vivid version of the Victor Hugo melodrama, staming Michael Rennie as the unjustly imprisoned Valjean and Robert Newton as the tanatical inspector Javen. Directed by Lewis Milestone (Teletext) (1674)

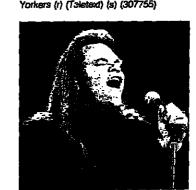
4.00 Backdate (Teletext) (s) (465) 4.30 Countdown (Teletext) (s) (649) 5.00 Ricki Lake (Teletext) (s) (8511587) 5.45 Terrytoons (125571) 6.00 The Crystal Maze. Edward Tudor-Pole

leads a team through four puzzle worlds (r) (Telelext) (s) (35620) 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (921991)

7.55 The Slot. Viewers' scapbox (264552) 8.00 Brookside. Mike and Lindsey try to make a quiet escape (Teletext) (s) (1587) 8.30 Travelog. The writer and Ukrainian exist Vitali Vitaliev samples the varied delights available on the island of Tasmania; and journalist and political columnist Anne Applebaum investigates the Black Sea port of Odessa (Teletext) (s) (7194)

9.00 Dispatches. A profile of Sir Richard Scott. (Teletext) (538587) 9.45 Short and Curties: A Martial Kind of Men. (Teletext) (367674)

10.00 ER: Days Like This. A prisoner is admitted after he is bitten by a police dog. (Teletext) (s) (9262) 11.00 Friends: The One with the Butt. Sit-



Meat Loaf live in New York (11.25pm)

11.25 Meat Loaf Live in the Neigi The grandiose rock singer in concert at the Beacon Theatre, New York (471842) 12.25am Moviewatch Magazine

1.00 FILM: Tobacco Road (1941, b/w).
Drama about the American Depression, directed by John Ford, Starring Charley Grapewin, Marjorie Rambeau (931971) 2.35-2.55 The Visit. While visiting he husband, a prisoner in Long Kesh, Sheila reflects on her life as the wife of a republican prisoner (r) (s) (2131224) 4,00-5,20 Schools (Telelext) (s) (8735137)

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable nnels, see the Vision supment, published Saturday SKY ONE

7.00mm Boled Egg (18484) 8.00 Power Ranges (18849) 8.30 Press Your Luck (2487379) 8.50 Love Commanon (1888945) 9.20 Curt TV-4380281) 9.50 The Oprah Winkey Show (4168587) 10.40 Jeopardy (1768589) 11.10 Sally Jessy Raphael (633755) 12.00 Beachy (19842) 1.00pm The Williams (73262) 2.00 Geratio (53693) 3.00 Press TV (77885) 3.20 The Oprah The Westons (7382) 2.00 Gerado (2500) 2.00 To Count TV (7738) 2.20 The Opeah Whitely Show (9889129) 4.15 Undum (2271262) 6.90 Star Tres: The Next Generation (2716) 6.00 The Simpsons (2007) 8.30 Jeographi (2587) 7.00 LAPD (3945) 7.30 MrA*S*H (8571) 8.00 Berth 2 (18945) 6.00 Pacient Ferness (23281) 7.00 Star Tell Tab. New Comparation (35588) Star Trek. The Next Generation (\$5555) 11.00 Law and Order (75303) 12.00 Lase Show (2011/27) 12.45am The Uniouch-spies (542/205) 1.30 Sibs (69446) 2.00 Hit Mix Long Play (2351232

SKY NEWS News on the Hour. News on the four.
9.30mm Destinations (74593) 10.30 ABC lagratine (86029) 1.30pm CBS News (7729) 2.30 Parisament Law (5603) 3.30 Parisament Law (5603) 3.30 Parisament Law (5603) 6.30 Tought (4559) 7.30 Sportsine (6113) 8.30 Newsmaker (582) 71.30 CBS News-(45674) 12,50am ABC News (14224) 1.38 Tought Replay (5769) 2.30 Newsmaker (16799) 3.30 Parisment (2604) (92750) 4.30 CBS News (31175) 8.30 ABC News

SKY MOVIES

8.00-att Across the Pacific (1942)
[49870] 3.00 Stage Door [1967] [40129]
10.00 3 Minjes (1982) [61223] 12.00
Robin Hood: Ment in Tights (1983)
[50554] 3.50 The Red Tent (1971)
[81303281] 6.00 3 Minjes (1892) [64571]
[81303281] 6.00 3 Minjes (1892) [7625]
[14291 [10.00 Mr. Jones (1989) [802295]
[14291 [10.00 Mr. Jones (1989) [802295]
[70220] 1.20 Mr. Jones (1989) [802295]
[1800] [273053] 3.10 5.10 Worth Winning
[1800] (577700137)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

THE MOVIE CHANNEL THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00mm Rock-a-bye Baby (1956) (48552)
6.00 Alexidar and His Megic Lurap (1966) (68571) 10.00 Final Days of Butch and Sundance (1963) (2656) 12.00 Wind (1962) 2291344) 2.15pm The Polar Bear King (1962) (225736) 4.00 Alexidia and His Megic Lensy (1965) (49637184) 5.50 Wind (1962) (56771755) 8.00 Shedow of a Doubt (1969) (57710) 12.00 Missacked (1963) (185730) 1.25em The Cemetery Club (1863) [220406) 3.15 The Adventures of the Flying Picide (1963) (57756798)

Sky Movies Gold from 10pin to 4ero.
6,00ero Under the Umbrets Tree
6,2913455 6.30 Fraggle Rock (41836939)
7.00 Winnis the Poon (21472754) 7.30
Dudales (81278151) 8.00 Chp in Dels
115245281) 8.30 Adventures in Wonderland
(15344552) 9.00 Wat Disney Presents
(62522113) 10.08 Under the Umbretal Tree
(41810991) 10.30 Francis Rock (15247216) (1594552) 9.00 Wat Index the Unbreals Ties (259213) 10.00 Under the Umbreals Ties (24810991) 10.30 Fregole Rock (15337216) 12.00 Muppet Bebies (86453578) 11.30 Per Corner (845007) 12.00 Cuack Attack (1535568) 12.30 pain Dumbo's Cicus (40148194) 1.00 Advantures in Wonderland (2592296) 1.30 FLM: The Legend of Young Dick Turpin (91271674) 3.00 Dimosaus (2456821) 3.30 Winnie the Poch (8542649) 4.00 Cuach Attack (8400931) 4.30 Dumbales (8590530) 5.00 Chip in Date Rescue Ranges (90149248) 5.30 Denger Bay (8642755) 8.00 Tayzin (8642168) 6.30 Dimosaus (86905627) 7.30 The Stabed Show (14549032) 7.40 The Stab

EUROSPORT '2 7.30em Figure Scating (97002) 8.30 Statistics (98939) 10.30 Car on Ice (38978) 11.30 Eurosid (48688) 11.30 Trestiton (69689) 1.30pm Bestetted (29810) 1.30 Frostbed (27020) 3.00 Equestrenism (4313) 4.00 Formula 1 (9842) 4.30 Live Analysis (19879) 5.30 Million (1987) 4.30 Live Analysis (19879) 5.30 Million (1987) 5.30 Million

Live Adhesics (57801179) 8.45 Speedworld (850674) 9.00 Prime Time Bosing (52303) 10.00 Footbell (25194) 11.30-12.30am Athletics (16945)

SKY SPORTS 7,00mm Sports Centre (39571) 7,30 Racing News (25378) 8,00 Wresting Manis (39939) 9,00 Aerobics Oz Style (47026) 9,30 The Footisater's Footisal Show (96571) 10,30 Footpaser's Footpas Srow 950511/1 11.00 American Sports (34026) 12.00 Aerobics Cz Style (27862) 12.30gm World Csip Cricker Pteview (43804) 2.30 British Rafy (9754) 3.00 Powerboat (3552) 2.30 Skif Saling (2839) 4.00 The Footpaler's Football Show (2889) 4.00 The Footseler's Footbell Show (37552) 5.00 Wrestling Superstans (4804) 6.00 Sports Carter (1825) 6.30 Rugby (8303) 7.00 FA Cup Fourth Round Replay, Use (338262) 16.00 Sports Carter (2895) 10.30 Futbol Municial (4489) 11.00 Rugby (38281) 11.30 Stdf Sefing (87520) 12.00 Inside the Pga Tour (78578) 12.30em FA Cup Fourth Round Replay (53885) 2.30-3.00 Sports Centre (88682)

SKY SPORTS GOLD 10.00pm World Cup Hell of Fame 19730552) 10.30 World Cup Classics: Ireland v toly 1994 (1863674) 12.00-1.00em Olympic Century (9451427) THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL 4.00mm (Lving World 5.00 Kenneth Copeland 5.30 Kids TV 5.45 General Christian Entertainment 6.15 Benny Him/This is Your Day 6.45-7.00 Music SKY SOAP

7,00pm Guiding Light (5342842) 7,55 As the World Turns (553755) 8-50. Payron Place (2039129) 9.20 Payro of Our Lives (5264738) 10,10-11,00 Another World (5506875) SKY TRAVEL 11.00 are Globerotter (2225194) 11.20 Video Tips (222623) 12.20 UK Today (9728623) 12.20 UK Today (9728623) 12.20 UK Today (9728623) 12.30 Propert To World (4174723) 1.00 Propert Guide (5524284) 2.00 Roads to Freedom (6885466) 2.30 Discover Your World (1445571) 3.00 Gishasay (6696200) 3.30-4.00 Kide-Down Under (1520216).

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

(2312674) 5.00 Voices from the Western Front (6889562) 6.00-7.00 Biography Charles Delivers (3824084) THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 7.00cm Bettiester Galactica (9081125) 8.00 FILM War of the Worlds (37515252) 9.35-10.00 Ray Bradbury Theore (205484) 1.00mm Battlester Gelactica (2593595) 2.00 FILM: War of the Worlds

(9518601) 3.30-4.00 Ray Bradbury Theatre TLC 2.00am Pairing (1016587) 2.30 Grow with toe (4314387) 10.00 Two's Country (8386910) 10.30 Our House (1835571) 11.00 The Pairined House (5582693) 11.30 Ruming Require (5582693) 12.00 Julia Child (1626823) 12.30 pair The Frugal Gournet (4318113) 1.00 Yam Can Cook (8231716) 1.30 Local Heroes (4317494) 2.30 Societ Genders (1805129) 3.00-4.00 Two's Country Flashback (5587484)

7.00mm Angels (3061255) 7.30 Neighbours (3665652) 8.00 Sons and Daughters (1925154) 8.30 EastEnders (1924465) 9.00

Malcolm McDowell suffers a harsh beating (Sky Movies Gold, Spm) The 88 (1011945) 9.30 The Sullwars (4316755) 10.00 All Cassures Great 810 Small (7485656) 11.00 Julie: Bravo (7580200) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (198280) 12.30pm Neghbours (431057) 1.00 EasEnders (4431735) 1.30 The 8th (4319842) 2.00 The Suthers (1188848) 2.25 Are You Berrig Served* (2678842) 3.00 Angels (1874587) 3.30 Edoracto (1706804) 4.00 Casualty (45982007) 6.05 Larry Grayson's Generation Games (63982755) Gruyson's Generation Game (69982755) 8,15 Kenny's Comc Cuts (4825215) 8,26 EastEnders (7587991) 7,00 Edorado (1793658) 7,30 And Mother Males Five (1793658) 7,30 And Mother Males Five (1793659) 18,00 Film Doctor in Data (1793659) 18,00 Film Edi (4182829) 10,35 Top of the Paps (1918239) 11,20 Special Branch (5639154) 12,20em FILM: Bad Man's River (5624330) 2,00-3,00 Shopping

8.00em Swen's Crossing (55620) 6.30 Puguel (73552) 7.00 Ready or Not (12639) 7.30 Caldonia Dreams (97674) 8.00 Sweet Valley High (84571) 8.30 Tray TCC (24658530) 12.35pm Tray TCC (44588587) 2.30 Happily Enc Alber (4552) 3.00 Sono (3007) 3.30 The New Prof. Parither Show (5397) 4.00 Caldonia Dreams (5604) 4.30-5.00 Sweet Valley High (7216)

NICKELODEON

5.00cm Henry's Car (9648200) 5.15 Blue (926397) 8.45 Toucan Tex (9567525) 7.00 Berfire (854865) 7.05 Grimmy (4444794) 7.45 Rugram and Doug (815552) 8.15 Asshriff Real Monsters (5564303) 8.30 Rocke's Modern Life (27216) 8.00 Ahm and the Chamunis (45658) 9.30 Pey-Wee's Playhouse (55587) 10.00 Banara Sandwich (12804) 11.00 Chaiden's BBC on Nickelaction (32808) 12.00 Magic School Bus (25804) 12.30 ptg Grimmy (53003) 1.00 Global Gues (38484) 1.30 Visionares (5874) 2.00 Children's BBC on Nickelaction (97007) 3.00 The Littlest Pet Shop (1194) 3.30 Migrity Max (3281) 4.00 The Ferals (5216) 4.30 Rugrats and Doug (1200) 5.00 Sister Stater (3939) 5.30 Henry Boys (2552) 8.00 Ren and Simpy (9455) 6.30-7.00 Are You Alread of the Dark? (6945)

DISCOVERY

Versers (1742-19 down lette A (1802-19) 6-30 Beyond 2000 (824507) 7.730 World of Strange Powers (1713194) 8.00 Mystanous Linuarae (1873858) 8.20 Time Travelers (1789465) 8.00 Werrons (6432194) 10.00 Classor Wireds (6435216) 11.00-12.00 The Fakiands Wer (8635197) 12.00 FLM: Separt Island (47)14281) 1.15pta Honey West (496)858) 2.00 The Sant (3384465) 3.00 The Euccaneers 1796755) 3.30 William Tell (1724200) 4.00 FUM The Third Man (1750571) 6.00 Roban Hood (1720484) 6.30 UFO (9232533) 7.30 The Green Hornet (1700620) 8.00 This Sent (6336991) 9.00 Gossip (5662129) 9.30 Weekly World News, (4496303) 10.00-12.00

4.00pm Bush Tucker Man (1716281) 4.30 Charle Bravo (1712465) 5.00 Classic Wheels (1783281) 6.00 Terra X (1806858)

PARAMOUNT 7.00pm Benson (9302) 7.30 Family Ties. With Michael J Fox (2129) 8.00 Entertain-Wild Michael 708 (2129) 8.00 Creative Frent (2823) 8.20 Wings (4858) 9.00 Scap (31378) 9.30 Laverne and Smiley (7809) 10.00 Entertainment (28533) 10.30 Frontine (85281) 11.00 Night Stand (13533) 12.30 The Clinic (71056) 12.30 mm The Odd Couple (50040) 1.00 Wings (63738) 1.30 Soap (70576) 2.00 Laverne and Shirley (32507) 2.30 Emerizament (86224) 3.00 Frontine (43634) 3.30-4.00

Fit M: Raznitrack (5573261)

The Clinic (77576)

UK LIVING

B.Obum Agony Hour (7915303) 7.00 Kirov (793793) 8.00 Esther (7191115) 8.30 Embrodery (8541856) 9.00 Food and Drok (2973561) 9.25 Kete and Alie (2789017) 10.05 Jerry Springer (8163262) 11.00 Young and Restless (8250991) 11.25 Brookside (779261) 12.30gm Dangerous Women (1241797) 1.25 Crosswite (857365) 2.00 Agony Hour (800179) 3.00 Live at Three (7409194) 4.00 Intelusion UK (9063649) 4.30 Crosswite (6101129) 8.05 Urgo (89630179) 5.30 Liudy Ladders (9096113) 6.00 Bewitched (9093059) 6.30 Brookside (6164571) 7.45 Delta Smith (536966) 7.40 The Joker (9697668) 8.05 Young and Restless (163607) 9.00 Cagney and Licoly (8987484) 10.00 Charlie's Angels (8239194) 10.35 Sylvania Waters (3716007) 11.30-12.00 Ser Life (5553084) FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00mm Black Beauty (8552) 5.30 Tintin (582842) 5.55 Bathrari (471025) 6.30 Cetarphrase (6533) 7.00 Roll with Irl (1216) 7.30 The Fell Guy (27705) 8.30 Home to Pioca (6571) 9.00 Puth Rendell A Steeping (6.1631) 9.00 Puth Rendell A Steeping

Lafe (16:15) **10.00** Treasure Hurl (6

11.00 Neon Rider (94587) 12.00 The Felt Guy (17934) 1.00pm Betman (92224) 1.30 Rhode (16392) 2.00 Big Brother Jake (1825) 2.30 Neon Roder (98330) 2.30 Rhode (16392) 4.00 Big Brother Jake (34865) 4.30-5.00 Black Beauty (13717) 6.30am The Grind (75910) 7.00 3 from 1 [9486262) 8.00 Music (140674) 11.00 Soul (40592) 12,00 Hds (53674) 1,00on Music (72137736) 2,45 3 from 1 (2667200) 3,00 (2517(26) 3.30 The Puise (875) 4.00 News (241251) 4.15 Harping Out 4.30 Dat MTV (9574) 5.00 Hanging Out (8510) 3.30 Boomi (7026) 6.00 Hanging Out 6.50 Hauting (9391) 7.00 Hts (18939) 8.00 Utimate Collection (25620) 9.30 Beams (15143) 10.00 News (25631) 10.15 Capanato (129674) 10.30 The State (73465) 11.00 The End? (49342) 12.30 as Videos

∀}+1 7.00am Power Breakfast (3212658) 9.00 Cale VI+1 (8531674) 12.00 Heart and Soul (3629633) 1.00pm. The Vinyl Years (7324246) 2.00 Ten of the Best : Sting (8971755) 3.00 Into the Music (7435939) lor You (8083587) 8,00 Wednesday Review (8971587) 8,30 VH-1 to 1 Wherey Houston (5887134) 8,00 Chas and Dave (891957) 10,00 The Vinyl Years (8992858) 11,00 Torrary Yence (2315571) 10,00m) Bg Courny (3092853) 2,00 Dawn Petrol CMT EUROPE

Country music from Sains to 7pm on Bateline including 5.00pm Saturday Nite Dance Rench 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket ZEE TV

7.00mm Zee Presents (43907397) 8.30 Renkashan (15020194) 8.00 Stant Sound (15117674) 9.30 Undu Serial Rohar (22920648) 10.30 Namaste India (15113858) 11.00 Tara (56532484) 72.00 Bunyaed (15024910) 12.00pm Marasa (91343007) 1.00 Undu FR.M. Sesural (23049910) 4.00 Zee Prosents (60777543) 6.00 Zee Zons (84114200) 5.30 Bengal Serial Lockochodi (6770179) 8.00 Camus (74455002) 8.30 Zee and U (66465227 pus (74455002) 6.30 Zee and U (56455282) pus (1495)002 ju 330 zee and o (3003032) 7.00 Aap (3 Adales (34101736) 7.30 Benegi April Baet (50055245) 8.00 News (3410484) 8.30 Hindi FitM. Phir 70 Rahari Yaad Ayee — Rahul (66695552) 11.30-12.00 Shangra Revisted (6439378) CARTOON NETWORK/INT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm Then TVT Rims as below.
7.00pm Moonfleet (1955) (2:626982)
9.00 Westworld (1973) (29739378) 11.00
Endungered Species (1982) (49151620)
12.45em Bettie Benneth the Earth (1967) 1458107171 2.25-5.00 Westworld (1973

CNN provides 24-hour news and CVC is the home shopping channel PERFORMANCE 7.00pm Museorgsky's Bons Godunov 10.00 A Janeček Double Bill 12.00-2.00em Newport Jazz Festival All Sters SBC WORLD

Nave on the hour 8.85em Horton 9.30 Film '95 12.15pm Penorama 1.15 World Business Report 1.30 RBC Asia and Pacific 2.25 Andrew Heij 3.05 Tamewatch 4.30 Tomorous's World 5.55 Mortel Reports 8.37 Tom Gaze 5.15 World Business Report 5.30 Top Gear

No 698

ACROSS
1 Unfairly treated (4.4.2) 8 Sciect: identify (4.3) 9 Apparition (5) 10 Levy; ring (bell) (4) 11 Formal flower-garden (8) 13 Private road (5)

14 Junior office-worker (5) 16 Wife of Orpheus, lost in Hades (S) 17 Insect pest; privileged

American (4) 20 Claude -, Iily painter (5) 21 Non-believer (7)

22 Funny business (5-5) SOLUTION TO NO 697

ACROSS: 1 Rage 3 Pabulum 8 Connive 9 Grail 10 Split 11 Odyssey 13 Melodrama 17 Languor 19 Salve 20 Circh 22 Numeral 23 En garde 24 | Spy

DOWN: 1 Racism 2 Gentleman 3 Preponderance 4 Buggy 5 Lea 6 Malays 7 Lintel 12 Small arms 14 Assume 15 Cliché 16 Deploy 18 Usher 21 Nag

1 Buzz off! (3,2)

7 Blur, hurtle (6)

12 Family feud (8)

2 Digging one's heels in (12)

6 Comparatively inferior item

13 Imagined: saw in sleep (6)

19 Govt. vote-manager; dessert

15 Anti-aircraft fire (3-3)

18 Tersely expressive (5)

Condemn; fate (4)

5 (Threat of) force (3.5)

Ouite good (3.3)

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD NO 693 In association with BRITISH MIDLAND ACROSS: 1 Monogamy 5 Fife 9 Nursery slopes 10 Rhea II Empathy 13 Hawker 15 Tarsus 18 Slither 20 Fist 23 Lotus position 24 Reck 25 Wretched

DOWN: 1 Menu 2 North 3 Grenade 4 Mayhem 6 Impetus 7 Essayist 8 Flap 12 Whistler 14 Whittle 16 Afflict 17 Ardour 19 Host 21 Swish 22 Enid

1st PRIZE of a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international network is R P Collier. Bexhill on Sea. E Surrey. 2nd PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLANDS tic network is 8 Mountford, Tettenhall Wood, Wolverhampton.

subject to availability.

RACING 45

HAS THE GRAND NATIONAL LOST ITS MAGIC TOUCH?

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7 1996

Cricket governing body steps into breach as political posturing adds to confusion

Walcott faces World Cup stalemate

CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ATHLETICS 43

CERON BACK IN THE

CHASE FOR LONDON

MARATHON HAT-TRICK

AFTER days spent looking on ty of the imminent World Cup. International Cricket Council (ICC) is mobilising in an attempt to resolve the chaos. Sir Clyde Walcott, the chairman, and his chief executive, David Richards, leave today for Calcutta, where they will call together all the parties involved in the impasse over matches scheduled for Colombo. the bomb-torn Sri Lanka

Last night, it seemed likely that the present state of confusion will remain until the weekend, when the players and officials of all 12 competing nations are to gather for the opening ceremony. Only then, three days before the

'It is Australia's blessing to be free of war. As a result, they have come to a dreadful error of vision. They think that cricket is actually important'

- Simon Barnes, page 46

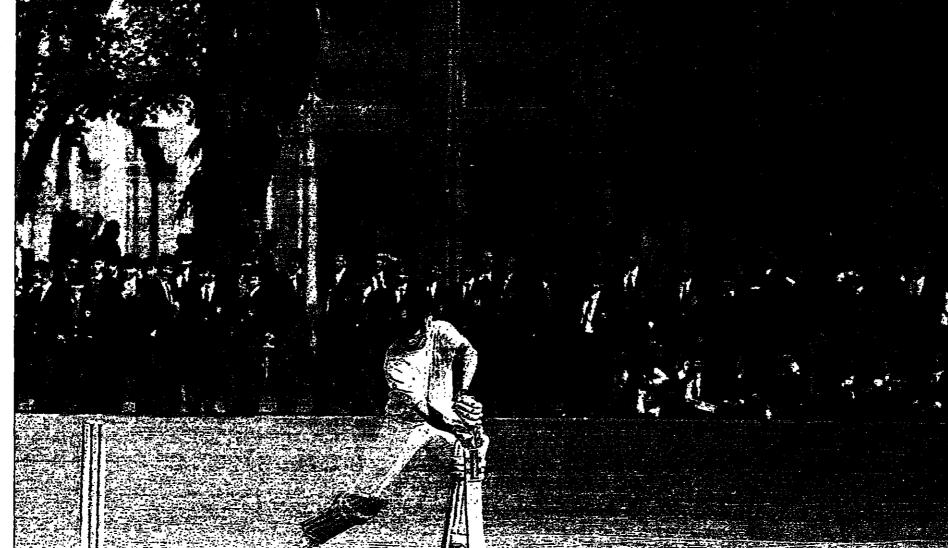
game between England and New Zealand, will the ICC be able to convene the discussions it still hones can repair the damage caused to the competition by the refusal of Australia and West Indies to play in Colombo, and Sri Lanka's reluctance to release the games to alternative ven-

ues in India. The situation reached stalemate yesterday when Australia rejected Sri Lanka's renewed offers of top-level security and elaborate plans to fly them in and out of Colombo in a single day. Stung by what they see as divisive and uncooperative actions by Australia, the Sri Lankans insisted disputed fixtures and Pilcom. the three-nation organising committee, pledged that the games could only be moved

with Sri Lankan approval. Bizarrely, the ICC is officially powerless to act, having

TIMES

CROSSWORD



Michael Atherton, the England captain, offers a batting masterclass to watching schoolboys during practice in Lahore yesterday. Photograph: John Giles

handed over control of the competition to Pilcom, but late yesterday Sir Clyde plainly decided that he could not ny while the game's premier

global event fell into discredit. A past president of the West Indies Board of Control, that its players, too, should not visit Sri Lanka, Sir Clyde issued a statement from the Lord's headquarters of the ICC in which he admitted to being "extremely concerned

indefinitely stand on ceremo-

by the overall situation" re-

TWO

of two one-day games. Throughout the winter, the ICC has been involved in legal arguments, first over the brib-

garding the World Cup. And well he might be. He added: "Very consider-

able efforts are continuing behind the scenes to find solutions to the present difficulties. I will be having further discussions with everyone involved in Calcutta over the circumstances, it is not appropriate that the ICC makes any further comment at this time."

Doubtless, both Sir Clyde and Richards have been busy on the telephone over recent days, trying to loosen different parties from their adhesive stands on this matter. Now, though, they have decided that face-to-face debate is the only answer to a stand-off that threatens far more damage to the game than the disruption

ery allegations by Australia

players against the former Pakistan captain. Salim Malik, and then over a balltampering charge against the Sri Lanka team, which was subsequently mysteriously withdrawn. Now, the threat of litigation looms once more, with sources in Sri Lanka compensation if Australia and

West Indies carry out their

boycott. Thilanga Sumathipala, vice-president of the Sri Lankan Cricket Board, said yesterday that he hoped all parties would continue to lobby Australia and West Indies to change their mind. But he added a barbed warning about the losses that would afflict Sri Lankan cricket if they did not and said his board would look into "the financial obligations of the defaulting teams.

Those who feel most strongly about the issue would go so

far as to eliminate Australia and West Indies from the World Cup, while the alternative possibility exists that Sri Lanka themselves may withdraw if their fixtures are unilaterally taken from them. harmony of the international

None of this is being helped by the political posturing emanating from the host nations. Yesterday, for instance, Zafar Altaf, an official of the Pakistan Cricket Board, accused Australia of "trying to spoil the atmosphere through statements". He also suggested that, if Pilcom acceded to their request and relocated their Colombo fixture, they may still not be satisfied with the offered venue. There is no end to it," he claimed disingenvously.

What is ever clearer is that

thing that a dub wanted to do

was to lose the £40,000 that

Stanislaus cost us. However,

there are much bigger issues

at stake here and we have made it clear that Leyton Orient will not tolerate any

Pakistan, whose recent relations with Australia have been anything but cordial, will fall in behind Sri Lanka, even if the Indian elements on the organising committee wish to be expedient and move the utive of the PCB, said that Pilcom and added: "We stick

by those arrangements." Kenya, the fourth and last team due to play in Sri Lanka. confirmed yesterday that they would abide by their fixture list, but Zimbabwe, scheduled to play in Colombo on February 21, seemed less certain. Don Arnot, chief executive of the Zimbabwe Cricket Union, said that he would continue to "monitor the situation"

South Africa are not involved in the dispute, but Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board, has come out in support of the organisers. "I understand the

actions of these two teams," Bacher said, "but South Africa would not have pulled out if we had been scheduled to play in Sri Lanka." For once, England are ap-

proaching a leading event with the spotlight turned off. Aitcheson College, Imran Khan's old school, and even the disclosure that they had kent quiet about a hamstring injury to Darren Gough made few waves. He is expected to be fit for the first match a week today. Whether peace will have broken out in this troubled event by then remains to

Big freeze " tightens its hold on FA Cup

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

THE FA Cup has not yet ground to a halt but its weather-beaten schedule is mistic of the fourth round much delay, it said yesterday. the hour. It's a case of grin and

ostooned for the second amlast night. Ipswich will try egain at Portman Road on February 13, as will Bolton at The matches at Shrey due to have been played tonight, are off, as is the fourth-round replay ben

ound. The game replace gainst Wrexham.

Whatever happens, it looks will eat into the dates of the man said. The FA's nigl scenario is if Grimsby Tow and West Ham United draw tonight, which would mean a replay on February 14. The winners would play at home to Chelsea but because police would require time to prepare the tie could not go ahead until

Leeds face the prospect of three knockout matches in seven days: a Coca-Cola Cuo semi-final first leg against Birmingham City on Sunday, the FA Cup fourth-round tie against Bolton next Wednesday, and then, if they beat Bolton, a fifth-round FA Cup game against Everton or Port Vale on February 17.

Cut Challenge Cup fourth round games, Whitehaven v Halifax and Workington Widnes, were called off vesterday.

Racing at Ascot and Ludlow, scheduled for today, was lost to the weather. However, the Wolverhampton meeting weather track at Southwell There will be inspections at Huntingdon and Wincanton Letters, page 19 today to see if racing can go Cop of wee, page 46 ahead tomorrow.

PAGE

Orient dismiss drug ban player

BY JOHN GOODBODY

ROGER STANISLAUS was vesterday sacked by Leyton Orient after testing positive for cocaine at the Endsleigh Insurance League third division match away to Barnet in November. Last week, Stanislaus, 27,

the former Arsenal and Brentford defender, was suspended by the Football Association for a year. He is the first player to have tested positive for a performance-enhancing sub-stance after a professional

Barry Hearn, the Orient chairman, said yesterday that he felt the FA ban was a lenient one and that the board had no alternative to dismissal to preserve the reputation of the club and "football in general".

The Orient directors had

agreed unanimously that Stanislaus had breached Football League regulation 63, section four, which covers "serious or persistent misconduct".

Hearn said: "The fact that Roger's version of events that led to him testing positive for cocaine was heavily contradicted by expert medical testimony has, in our opinion, left the club with no possible allernative."

Experts say cocaine can improve a player's performance. Dr David Cowan, the director of the laboratory at King's College, London, which analysed the urine sample, said: There is no question cocaine improves alertness. It can sustain stamina and endurance. It might also help a player through the pain

Hearn said that the "last

form of drug abuse by any of our players. I hope our mess-age is clear. Stanislaus did not attend

New world vision . Rovers retreat.

the meeting but Hearn telephoned him to tell him the outcome. Hearn said: He expected it. He was resigned to it and took it in good grace." Hearn said that he would be

contacting the FA to urge the governing body to extend its anti-drugs measures. He believes that samples from entire teams should be taken by officers of the independent Sports Council, instead of from only two players on each side. A total of 280 tests will be carried out in England this season.

☐ Faustino Asprilla's transfer to Newcastle United is back on. Forty-eight hours after the £6.7 million deal had apparently collapsed amid accusations of bad faith, Newcastle and Parma confirmed yesterday that the transfer could be completed by the weekend (Peter Ball writes).

Negotiations were resumed by telephone yesterday afternoon involving Sir John Hall, the Newcastle chairman. Asprilla, the Colombia international striker, had said earlier after a training session in Italy: "I believe Kevin Keegan [the Newcastle manager] wanted me at all costs."

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BEFORE YOU PHONE THE WORLD, PHONE US.



BY DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THERE were fresh indications yesterday that Diane Modahl may have her name cleared of drug allegations by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF). She may even be reinstated without having to face an IAAF arbitration hearing.

The IAAF announced that, after a recommendation from its doping commission, its council would discuss Modahl's case at its next meeting, in South Africa on March 24 and 25. The hearing, which was to have been the next step in the 20-month saga, has thus been put back a stage.

panel may now not be needed. If council has an opinion that it is not necessary to go to arbitration, theoretically it is possible, but the other alternative is just as possible." Istvan Gyulai, the IAAF secretary, said. "The case is referred to arbitration but, should this recommendation of the doping commission result in a different opinion of the council, the council has the right to

change that referral." Modahi was sent home from the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria, as she was about to defend her 800 metres title, after failing a drugs test taken ten weeks earlier. She was banned for four years.

hearing. However, a BAF appeals panel lifted the ban. freeing her to return to competition. Last August, the medical

commission recommended arbitration but having met within a week of the BAF appeals decision, it had no time to examine the evidence. Now the council has been called into the process after research by the IAAF's medical experts. This latest development suggests the medical commission may have reached a different conclusion, in line with the British verdict.

Ceron's mission, page 43

